

# MACLEAN'S

## **GREAT SATAN NO MORE**

Iran's youth welcome  
the U.S. move into Iraq

## **PETER C. NEWMAN**

Will Jean Charest bring an  
end to Quebec separatism?

## **A QUESTION OF TRUST**

SARS and West Nile put the  
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## THE TRIUMPH OF IRONY

Stephen Leacock, Charles Dickens and Alfred E. Newman might seem like strange bedfellows. But the Canadian humorist, British novelist and gap-toothed author of *AMAD* magazine have one thing in common: they all helped to shape the offbeat world view and ironic writing style of Maclean's Vancouver bureau chief Ken MacQueen (shown salmon fishing off Vancouver Island).

MacQueen, who contributed two stories to the travel package in this issue, credits such satirical influences as *AMAD*, *National Lampoon*, *Monty Python* and *SCITV* with nurturing his keen sense of the absurd. As a result, he says, "I try to work some humor into all my articles. It creates a fresh viewpoint and helps to humanize the stories."

That approach serves him well as he



prepares the ScoreCard feature for every issue of *Maclean's*. Each week, MacQueen compiles a file of bizarre and offbeat news items—everything from the prohibition on killing ants in Germany to the sale of \$454 million worth of B.C. ferries for \$20 million—then treats them like a writer's political cartoon. "My goal is to make a point on the issues of the day so I

take a viewpoint, then show it a bit for satirical purposes."

That viewpoint changes with every story. "I try to avoid fixed views," he adds. "I like to be surprised and I find that given the chance, people almost always rise to the occasion."

Sometimes, admits MacQueen, "I feel like I'm having too much fun. The wonder of this job is that it offers so many fresh, unique experiences."

A case in point is the B.C. travel assignment for this week's issue. In addition to salmon fishing for the first time he caught a few immature Coho of the "catch and release" variety, MacQueen explored historic Puget's Lodge on the Campbell River, watched a herd of enormous California Steller sea lions basking in the sun and took an eco-tour. A previous visit to Shuswap Lake near Kamloops—the self-proclaimed "Houseboat Capital of Canada"—inspired his article on the latest in luxury houseboats.

There's certainly no shortage of fresh story ideas in British Columbia, where "you can't walk half a block without stumbling on something great," MacQueen says. "I see myself as a representative of the reading public. If I'm interested and engaged, I figure that the readers will be, too."

Watch for more articles by Ken MacQueen in future issues of *Maclean's*.

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'Mike Weir has done something very wonderful for Canadians. He has shown us all that dreams can come true.' —ALEX TRUDEAU, *MicroAge*, Ont.

Letter to the Editor: [info@theonion.com](mailto:info@theonion.com)

#### Beating in golf glory

Finally, some good news! Congratulations to Mike Weir for becoming the first Canadian to win the Masters golf tournament and for cloaking Canadian spirit! ("So what next, Mike Weir?" Cover, April 28) Debates over whether Canada's stance on the war in Iraq will affect Canada-U.S. relations will go on, and terrorism and SARS will still be determining factors in our travel plans. But Mike Weir's triumph will be an inspiration and a source of spontaneous optimism for us golfers and, hopefully, all Canadians.

Bruce Sadoski, Toronto

It took Mike Weir's pre-dawn controlling win to liberate Canadians from their obsessions, paralyzing posture toward the U.S. At every level, we allow America to dominate us. We have allowed the American ambassador, Paul Galtieri, to outstage us for not joining their invasion into Iraq. We are cowering because George Bush is angry with us and wasn't nice to Jean Chrétien on his march for a barbecue. To which I say, tough Canadians, get up off your knees, show the Americans we are not afraid to treat differently from them. After all, No one respects a wimp.

Thomas F. Mossall, Toronto

I'm as thrilled as anyone that Canada's own Mike Weir won the Masters, but after reading that article I looked for one celebrating the win by Randy Ferby's team at the World Curling Championships (Thurso). I pass the story of four guys from Edmonton who have won three Brier in a row and successfully defended a world title against increasingly strong international competition doesn't count much into the story of a Canadian living in Utah who has won lots of money. Congratulations, Mike. Congratulations, Randy, Dave, Scott and Marcel. Canadians are proud of you.

Joan Mills, Guelph, Ont.

We really enjoyed "Major wins and disappointments" (Cover, April 28) because we, as a family, used to follow George Knabbe



as Winnipeg and during the winter in the southern U.S. He was always accessible to Canadians looking to him during his rounds. He, Mike and Dave Remy, whom we follow on the Champion Tour, are part of Canada's golfing heritage.

Warren Popert, Winnipeg

#### And my nomination is ...

What an oversight! "Major wins and disappointments" made no mention of Marlene Stewart Strait, 11 times winner of the Canadian Women's Amateur, who won the 1993 British Women's Amateur at 29, the 1995 U.S. Women's Amateur at 32, and the 1963 Australian Women's Amateur.

Colin Graham, Lacombe, Que.

For a chance! A story on Canadian golf and many a student of the best ball order of all time—Moe Norman. A living legend and unique character, Moe has scored three rounds of 59, has held dozens of course records, many still standing, and has coached Canadian tournament titles.

Mark D. Pao, Kitchener, Ont.

It amuses me that you omitted any reference to Stan Leonard, who didn't join the U.S. tour until age 40, then played in 12 Masters with fourth-place finishes in 1958 and '59. He

won eight CPGA and three USPGA titles, and he still gives lessons, well into his 80s. Gordon McConchie, Delta, B.C.

#### A close-up look at war

Alexandre Trudeau's article from the streets, "The theft of Baghdad" (April 28), was quite a change from the perspective of propaganda news broadcasts in the media recently. War is more easily supported when one looks at the big picture. It is stories such as these pitched by Trudeau, however, that remind people of the horrifying aspects of war.

Lisa Milbrink, Hamilton

I was drawn to the article "The theft of Baghdad" by the name Alexandre Trudeau. But by the end of the first paragraph, I was far beyond thoughts about his famous father and much more interested in the things he had to say. I look forward to seeing much, much more of his work.

J. Oliver A. Simons, Brampton, Ont.

So Saddam Hussein, that great threat to the world, has been captured with hardly a scarp. No significant decline of his country or capital, despite his massive army. No surprise attack with some nifty weapon, despite supposedly huge stockpiles. None of the entrenched urban warfare, with juicy CNN promises of actual soldiers in combat. No terrorism lurking in sandy hideouts. Turns out that Saddam mostly threatened the Bush family ego. Three cheers for Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, who did his best to keep us out of this quagmire. As far as I'm concerned, it's all the good he needs.

Naupha Warren, Kelowna, B.C.

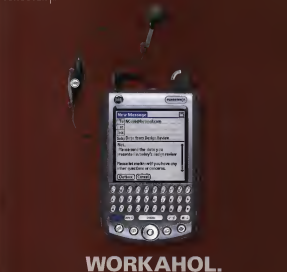
#### Where's the beauty?

It is a shame that Donald Cous, who many of us here in Canada respect and trust in money matters, displayed such a lack of foreboding "Agora god of money" (Column, April 28). What are we to think of him writing that the Gulf War was "baskin', beautiful and short?"

Jaeger Wilkison, Lethbridge, Que.

#### A change in Quebec

In his article about Jean Chrétien's win in the Quebec election ("No more separation anxiety," Politics, April 28), Robert Aubin wrote that the rest of Canada is accepting Quebecers to be nervous. In answer: I agree.



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a French Canadian, I took offense at this. When Canadians see the province of Quebec, they are in awe of the culture and the history Quebecers want to hold on to. Canadian culture, not be assimilated into American. Perhaps Quebec does not want to be like the rest of Canada because the rest of Canada is busily transforming into the 51st state. Thus, Quebec should not be anyone's business, maybe the rest of Canada

do should be aware for Quebecers  
*Emilie Chantre, Hamilton*

What is Quebec like — and  
*Thay Walker, Surrey, B.C.*

#### Apocalyptic visions

As a traveler who specializes in the cooling sub-dystopias that Robert Sawyer finds so fascinating — and so strange biologist who

has brushed up against the occasional environmental catastrophe — I can only shake my head at Sawyer's opinion piece "Science and salvation" (*Weekend*, April 28). Sawyer appears to live in a parallel universe where the sun always shines, power never corrupts and every scientific breakthrough is immediately harnessed for the good of all mankind. Unfortunately, the rest of us live in a world where the daily catastrophe runs in tropical forests range from 50 to 180 species, ecosystems are collapsing, the Greenland ice sheet is disappearing, multinational companies reel under uncollected damage claims due to freak weather events. We're in for a wild ride, and I don't think anyone can predict where it will end.

*Peter Walsh, Toronto*

#### To the rescue in Frank

I was surprised to read that one man saved the lives of the passengers of the near-bound train following the Frank Slide ("The day the mountain moved," *History*, April 28). My grandfather, William Fraser, who managed a store in Frank at the time, crossed the slide with two others to stop the train. In an article he wrote for the *Pasqua Creek Echo* in 1933, commemorating the 30th anniversary of the slide, he stated that, "a brakeman off the freight, together with J. Ashdown and I, volunteered to go over the rocks on this section and landed safely on the other side shortly before the passenger train arrived, and acquainted crew and passengers as to what had happened." Needless to say, I am happy that he survived the catastrophe to open a dry-goods store in Pincher Creek, marry and raise a family of five.

*Billy Stacey, Cochrane, Alta.*

#### Travelling without a net

The travel agent that Suzanne Boles spoke to said, "We don't get a discount from airlines anymore so we have to charge customers a user fee" ("Flying in cyberspace," *Over to You*, April 28). "Discount" isn't the correct term. Most airlines no longer give us travel consultants any commission for booking roughly 80 per cent of airline tickets. That is why travel agencies have to charge a small fee. What took Boles over two hours to book on line could have been done in minutes through a travel consultant, complete with a friendly smile and a nicely typed itinerary — for a small fee.

*Ronan Gipe, Lethbridge, Alberta*

## THEWEEK



### Middle East | Death, reprisal, and the faint stirrings of a new order

At first glance you had to wonder what exactly has changed. The headlines told the old, sad story: a suicide bomber killed three in Tel Aviv, Israeli troops shot 12 Palestinians dead during a raid in Gaza. Meanwhile, a short remake bogged down in Iraq, American GIs and Iraqi street demonstrators engaged in two days of running battles that left 17 Iraqis dead, and seven U.S. soldiers injured when a grenade was tossed into a compound they were using as barracks. The most disturbing thought was uttered by a young Al Fallujah resident, who said: "We have become another Palestine."

And yet, leave aside the blood and the angry convictions of old orders slipping away and it really was quite an extraordinary week by Middle East standards. The U.S. surprised the world — and Osama bin Laden for sure — by pledging to remove its military bases, the target of so much Arab animosity, from Saudi Arabian soil. Plus for an instant governments in Iraq moved ahead

with surprising alacrity (Canada's contribution, three transport planes, had experts and a contingent of police and prison guard officers). A new peace plan — yes, another new peace plan — was unveiled for Israel and the Palestinians, but this one with firm timetables (2005) for a Palestinian state, and the backing of major powers. And on an unrelated corner in the Pacific, to thousands of cheering troops, U.S. President George W. Bush pronounced combat in Iraq "essentially over." For sure, But even presidents don't go back on their word of war. The message was clear: the boys are coming home.

Taken together, it was a week when it looked as if a giant hand was trying to sweep aside the set-piece pieces of the Middle East, from entrenched Israeli influence to Palestinian despair, in a new display of geo-strategic change. Will it work? These conflicts go back generations and make even us newer ones that surely there comes a time when starting afresh is the only game on the board.

Iraqi monument in Al Fallujah, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell making the rounds.

**Yakov**  
 Guys here that believe in the idea of a greater sense of life in each other, study science. They say that they don't know where to get in the end of the race but, hey, could be other reasons. They're better?



**Jack O'Connell:**  
 Dirty Dealmaker's 11-year-old checks into the same substance abuse. After two years of floundering in dysfunction on the family grounds for privacy location suggests a need for understanding influence — even here it's a matter of how much would be a help.

**Quote of the week** | "We could operate the Blue Jays at a small profit if the dollar was at parity." *Toronto Blue Jays president PAUL GEDFREY on the rise of the loonie to USD 44 cents*

# BULOVA



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**ATTACKING SHARKS** A mob of bathers dealing their trophy, one of three male sharks that strayed into shallow waters and were killed with sticks along Rosh Pinesha shoreline of Israel, reportedly in response to a bitten swimmer near Capernaum. It was not a good week for animal lovers. British scientists reported that fish do, in fact, feel pain, and a Texas wildlife officer dropped a live alligator through a shocked tourist's web site pickup before shooting it. On the other hand, Germany introduced a law making it illegal to kill ants.

## WORLD

**SARS** The World Health Organization lifted its travel ban on Taiwan following a round of far-left lobbying by Canadian politicians and health officials. The agency's regulatory arm has also been accused in Vietnam, the WHO said, but there were new cases in China and the disease spread to three new countries: New Zealand, South Korea and Poland.

In Ontario, there have been 23 deaths attributed to SARS but only one new case, a nurse, since April 18. Premier Brian Topp said the quarantine and related measures have cost the province \$500 million and rising.

**NORTHERN IRELAND** The once-splendid IRA said its "war" with Britain is over, but British Prime Minister Tony Blair nevertheless postponed scheduled elections to the territory, saying the IRA is refusing "poor-blink" to rule out future violence and re-territorialization.

**WAR LEADERS** A group of four European nations—France, Germany, Belgium and Luxembourg—formed a parallel defense force to deploy troops, if they choose, outside the NATO umbrella.

Britain's Tony Blair won more praise from former Conservative prime minister Margaret Thatcher, 77, as "a bold and effective war leader." At the same time, Britain's top military commander, Admiral Sir Michael Boyce, said British troops were overextended by the Iraq war and cannot afford another "discretionary operation" until at least 1995.

**NORTH KOREA** A week after implying to U.S. negotiators that it had already manufactured nuclear weapons, North Korea offered to scrap its nuclear arsenal if it could be given economic aid and a written guarantee it would not be attacked by the U.S.

**EARTHQUAKE** At least 90 schoolchildren were pulled alive from the rubble of a state-run dormitory after an earthquake measuring

6.4 on the Richter scale rumbled through eastern Turkey that more than 130 people died as a result of the tremors, and over 60 students were still unaccounted for late last week.

**COLOMBIA** Rafael Ángel, a commander in Colombia's largest rebel group, surrendered to authorities and urged comrades to do the same, saying that Colombia's 37-year civil war has brought nothing but pain.

**FOLLOW-UP** The Iraq lawyer and his nurse wife who helped U.S. commanders locate and rescue POW Jessica Lynch were granted asylum in the U.S. He also received a job with a Washington lobbying firm.

Libya formally accepted responsibility for the bombing of a Pan Am airliner over Lockerbie, Scotland, in 1988 and set up a nearly US\$3-billion trust fund for the families of victims. The U.S., however, said Libya's admission was not enough to warrant lifting UN sanctions.

Spain's prosecutor general closed the

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books on the apartment bombings in 1999 that killed 243 people and sent Russian troops back to Chechnya. The key participants in the attack, he said, were Russians and Muslim militants from other countries, acting on behalf of Chechen separatists.

**KASHMIR** For the first time in over two years, Indian and Pakistani leaders met to discuss the often-misunderstood dispute over Kashmir and to renew diplomatic relations. The next day India tested one of its most advanced short-range missiles but Pakistan shrugged off the incident, saying at least three it had been fomented.

Pakistan also arrested six reportedly high-level al-Qaeda operatives, among them an alleged leader in the October 2000 bomb attack on the U.S. destroyer Cole in Yemen, which killed 17 sailors.

## CANADA

**LOOMING** The Canadian dollar spiked through the USDT cost barrier, reaching its highest level in five years. The once languishing loonie is up 11 per cent on the battered American greenback in the first of the year, a bonanza some see as a blow to many exporters.

**ARI INDIAN** Two Sikhs, Rajinder Singh Malak, 56, a wealthy Vancouver businessman, and Ajai Singh Baghi, 55, a Randsheep, B.C., land developer, pleaded not guilty to the murder of 329 people in the long-awaited trial into the 1985 Air India bombing begun



in Vancouver. The trial started with the announcement that former co-accused Indrajit Singh Baghi, who pleaded guilty in February to related charges, will testify.

**RETIREMENT** Ontario's Conservative government, trifling in the polls and facing an election, promised to ban mandatory retirement at 65, a promise that is not enshrined in law but included in many corporate and union contracts.

**APPEALS** The B.C. Court of Appeal has given Ottawa and the province until July 2004 to change existing marriage laws to allow for gay wedlock. This was the latest in a series of Canadian court-to-endorse same-sex marriage. A B.C. judge ordered the environmental

## RELIEF CONVOY

Three astronauts who've been on a three-month extended orbit because of the Columbia shuttle disaster are coming home—in a Soyuz capsule, the Vth flight of the space age. Two replacements, a Russian and an American, docked at the International Space Station for a long-awaited crew change.

group Greenpeace and two of its members to pay four loggers \$6,000 in lost wages for a protest that shut logging down in May 1997. Twenty-eight Ontario families with autistic children are suing that province's government to cover for caring back on their special assistance since the children turn 16 years of age.

**POLITICS** Maritimeers go to the polls on June 3 to pass judgment on Gary Doer's NDP government.

The Clinton government appears to be rethinking its opposition to participating in the U.S. missile shield for North America, commonly referred to as Star Wars. It also floated trial balloons about opening the broadcasting and telecommunications sectors to greater foreign ownership.

**UNWANTED** Ottawa declared infamous Holocaust denier Ernst Zundel a national security risk, a rare cabinet-level designation that should hasten his deportation to Germany when he faces charges of incitement of hatred.

**PROMISES KEPT** Alberta is removing 200 video gambling terminals from seven communities that voted them out in plebiscites almost six years ago. The delay was because of a court challenge from bar owners which has now been dropped.

Premier Ralph Klein made a surprise pledge of \$1 billion for a landfill monitoring station atop Turtle Mountain, near the Alberta-B.C. border, one of the disastrous Frank Slide 100 years ago in which more than 70 people died.

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BY GEORF LOSON



Take a look! SARS in Toronto is one thing, but now this virus is rearing out of control in Ottawa!



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## THEWEEK

### Mansbridge on the Record



## WHAT CHAMPLAIN DID

The great explorer didn't patronize our Native peoples. We can learn from him.

**IN THE LATE 1990s** when I was working at a radio station in Churchill, Man., I got involved with a group helping young Inuit women boys who were going through difficult times. Their families hailed in the bush for centuries, but when their nearby trading post closed, Ormuskah then moved into Churchill, where the mostly white, almost frontier life was far from a good fit. Soon, their community was afflicted by alcoholism, poverty and despair.

Some of us wanted to do something, so for a few hours a week, I spent time with a half dozen youngsters: we decided we'd build an outdoor course to be used by visiting Scouts the next summer. During that time, as brief as it was, I think I learned more from them than they ever learned from me, such as the day we were walking in the bush, marking locations, and one of the teens suddenly stopped, holding his arms out, signalling us to freeze. We all listened in admiration of absolute silence, I thought—but no, one of the boys whispered to me, "Back!" Sure enough, a minute or so later, a black bear directly overhead. It was just one of many wonderful moments we shared over a period of five months—but surely, their lives, overall, continued in the aquifer that they called home. A few years later, long after I'd left Churchill, Ormuskah agreed to let their community move back to the bush they'd been forced to leave those many years ago.

I've always carried some guilt with me about that choice—that I and so many of the rest of us who lived there then just didn't do enough—didn't do anything, really—to make the Inuit people's plight less intense. Over the years, I've often found a true treasure in reviewing various Indian affairs matters about Canada's "problems" with some of its Aboriginal peoples: you keep getting the same stories we've been hearing for decades. They sound so obvious, and many of them are, but still the "problems"

persist, and carry on from generation to generation. Jean Chrétien often talks proudly of his time as Indian affairs minister in the 1970s. In fact, both his office and his name prominently display some of the Native works of art he received during his time in the portfolio. He says he's committed to righting past wrongs and hopes his legacy reflects that.

All this came to mind recently when I watched Cécile Come, the national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, stand on Parliament Hill, in part of a protest against the Chrétien government's latest attempt to change Ottawa's relationship with its people by changing the Indian Act. Even though he also advocates change, Come says that about the protest. "It will not build a better house. It will not prevent one more suicide. It will not teach one more person about our culture and our ways."

So the deadlock continues. Four hundred years ago in 1492, Samuel de Champlain began the mission that would open up the heart of Canada to European explorers and, soon after, to the first white settlers. The debate has long existed about how the early explorers began the "problem," and there is much evidence to make that argument. But not, perhaps, Champlain. Peter Dinklage, an associate professor of history at the University of Guelph, has taken a new look at Champlain's writings, and his work may provide a lesson in how things might have been. Dinklage argues that Champlain, by reaching out to form alliances with various Indian peoples, respecting their culture, and soft-selling religion, was in some contrast to the explorers, missionaries, artists and governments who followed him. Bottom line, Champlain wasn't perfect, but he wasn't patronizing either. Was he the last to be that way?

Peter Mansbridge is Chief Correspondent of CBC Television News and Author of *The National*. To comment: [tmans@nbc.ca](mailto:tmans@nbc.ca)

### Passages

**DEED** Rosemary Brown was the first black woman elected to political office in Canada and was known as a crusader for social justice. Born in Kingston, Jamaica, Brown came to Canada in 1974 and was an NDP MLA in B.C. from 1972 to 1986. In 1973, she ran for the federal leadership of the party, but lost to Ed Broadbent.



Brown, 72, who taught women's studies at Simon Fraser University, died of a heart attack in Vancouver.

**ENGAGED** Jazzpianist Diana Krall, 37, of Nanaimo, B.C., will marry British rock musician Elton John. The pair met at the 2002 Grammy awards.

**FINED** Financial guru Brian Cosentino has been penalized \$300,000 by the Ontario Securities Commission for conflict of interest. Cosentino was reprimanded for acting as an adviser at his company without registering with the OSC or revealing his involvement in the investment.

**RETURNING** Two Olympic athletes are coming out of retirement. Eric Stupac, 31, will resume competitive figure skating next season, after only a year off. And swimmer Jonzac Melan, 23, who left the national team two years ago, has announced she's training for the 2004 Olympics.

**ALLIES** Afta smoking crusader Barry Babb, 42, has been named onto a palliative care unit at an Edmonton hospital. The former model has spoken to 30,000 teens about her battle with terminal lung cancer, a result of her two packs-a-day habit.

**PROT** Hospital for Sick Children researcher Gideon Koren pleaded guilty in Toronto to breaching a subpoena as a physician, after waging a poison-pen campaign against his colleague Nancy Olivetti. Koren had agreed to a \$2,700 fine and oral reprimand—and still faces judgment from a four-member disciplinary panel.

**REMARKS** After five years as president of the National Rifle Association, Charlton Heston, 78, stepped down, saying, "It's been quite a ride."



### Media | Pipped at the Post, fiscal realities intrude

The changes have been anything but uneventful at Canada's unashamedly right-wing national daily. After months of speculation that CanWest Global Communications Corp. was set to fold its personally money-losing National Post, the paper was granted a reprieve. But at a cost, the editors who have been at the helm since its 1995 inception were shown the door.

Ken Whyte, editor-in-chief, and Martin Newland, his deputy—the duo behind the Post's choicest mixture of agenda-driven news, polemic commentary and unapologetic fluff, have left to pursue unexpected "opportunities." Their abrupt departures (Whyte was promoted to deputy publisher just three months ago), along with the firing of the paper's senior sales and marketing team and the resignation of publisher Peter Wenz, mark the severing of the Post's last links to its founding vision.

The paper's post-winning Toronto proved

popular with the public—by the end of its second year, circulation was almost neck and neck with the Globe and Mail—but it never really caught on with advertisers. Shortly after CanWest took full control of the empire from Post founder Conrad Black in August 2000, it made discontinuous to trim the broadsheet's losses (more than \$200 million since start-up), shuffling sections and more than 130 employees, but the paper has been unable to get out of the red.

Leonard Asper, CanWest chief executive, announced a three-year plan to make the paper profitable and appointed his older brother David to oversee the flagship. "The Asper name is on the line. This is a millage Lord Black's dream, it is our reality," the CEO told *Timesweekend's* Matthew Fraser, a media commentator and journalist, [go.asper.com](http://go.asper.com).

CanWest founder Larry Asper with son David. The company has given the Post's reprieve.

issue with its previous management in person, was named editor-in-chief.

Both Asper and Fraser say the paper will continue to have an outspoken, conservative voice, but are banning the further editorial cuts ("fine tuning," the new editor tells it) seen in the office. CanWest, the formerly exclusive owner of Global Television, took the costly leap into newspapers as part of the convergence move, but has yet to realize the expected profits and advantages of cross-promotion. In recent months, however, more and more Post reporters have been showing up on TV screens, and the content of the daily's daily papers across the country has become increasingly standardized—a trend that seems sure to intensify as the company struggles to get out from under a \$3.4-billion debt load. "The National Post is changing into the future under new leadership," Fraser wrote last week. But as revenues and reserve troops dwindle, the question remains how much longer the offensive can continue.



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# LONGING FOR AMERICA

Suppressed by religious leaders, some Iranians would welcome a U.S. invasion

**THE 300 PEOPLE** gathered in Baghdad last week represented nearly every faction and religious group in Iraq. Brought together by U.S. officials, they will meet again in about a month to decide whether their country will adopt a leadership council or single head of state. Among them were members of the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, which wants to create a strict Muslim state similar to the one in neighborhood Iran. *Iranian* correspondent Adam R. Born crossed Iran recently, he found a country desperate to overthrow the nation's clerics, who came to power with the revolution in 1979 and continue to rule with an iron fist. Many Iranians told Born they would welcome American troops if they were sent in to remove the leadership. While that is unlikely, Iranian bloggers ally may be a democratic Iraq in which religion and individual rights coexist, and from where tolerance and prosperity can finally spread and bring the downfall of Iran's religious regime. *Khamenei* report:

**HELL IS A MATTER** of perspective. For some in Iraq, the burning oil crutches and exploding cruise missiles during Baghdad's crumbling skyline were the definitive symbol of hell on earth. In neighboring Iran, people have a different tale to tell. Walking through the congestion of Tehran, city of more than nine million in the northwest of the country, Abbas, a taxi driver, says he lived in Azerbaijan two years, then returned to Iran in 1997. Following the election of reformist President Mohammad Khatami, Iran's clerical government never materialized under Khatami, and Iran's Muslim leaders continue to control virtually every facet of life. As it was in Saddam Hussein's Iraq, controlling the leadership led to prison and execution. Now, Abbas hopes the American troops occupying Iraq will mean liberating Iran. "In America I learned the meaning of life," says Abbas. "Then I came back to hell."

American are living in a frustrating, sometimes deadly, political gridlock. What Khatami wants is economic and political reform in Iran.

armed by reformers, real power rests with Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who has absolute authority and holds his position for life. He controls the judiciary, the Revolutionary Guards and the all-powerful Council of Guardians, whose members, as the self-styled representatives of God on earth, can veto legislation that does not fit with their strict interpretation of the Koran. Eighty democratic activists have been assassinated since 1996, and massive street protests demanding reforms have had little effect on the government.

With their faith in Khamenei's ability to overthrow the clerical world, Iran's youth, over-educated and underemployed, are looking for America's promise to bring democracy to Iran will also include them. About 60 percent of Iranians are under the age of 30. Many identify with the U.S. and

**"IF YOU want the truth, we're happy about how the war in Iraq has turned out," one woman said. "I think America can help us now."**

we Iraq has a growing anger, a first step in their own emancipation. For them, the Great Satan is the Great Satan. That's what they talk about in the safety of their homes and smoke-filled tea houses. It's not only the young who are restless. "The revolution that overthrew the Shah was never about the clergy," says Hossein, a 55-year-old retired government employee in Tehran. "The mullahs took this opportunity to seize power. We never wanted them."

On the streets of Tehran no one dare expose their true feelings. At the city's Open University, Fariba Parniani, a 22-year-old English major, nervously waits the parking lot for any sign of government reformers before driving to a secluded corner of the campus. "It's very difficult for us to

talk to you," she says, pulling her mandatory headscarf back to reveal jet-black hair. "If we want the truth, we're happy about the way the war in Iraq has turned out. We're relieved Saddam's gone and we look forward to what that means for Iran. I think America can help us now. We want more freedom. We want the freedom to speak our minds and we think America can bring this to us."

But Parniani is adamant that Iranian young people do not crave a Western lifestyle. "We can go to Turkey every day to enjoy all these things—the dance clubs, the bars," she says. The problem, according to her, is that people want to be able to express themselves. And she says the clerics have mismanaged the economy that despite Iran's oil wealth, average monthly income is hovering below \$1,500 and unemployment has risen to 12 percent.

The situation is as it was in the countryside. On the road to Karaman, a village 20 km south of Tehran, smooth asphalt gives way to potholed roads, and some dominate the landscape. Many of the villagers still live in caves their ancestors dug out of volcanic rock centuries ago, and survive on meager incomes derived from herding sheep or selling rice and fruit. One village, a father of two, says the 90 percent of the people in Karaman are looking forward to an American attack. "If it happens, we will not defend Iran," he says, seated on the carpeted floor of his two-room cave, in low gray walls casting pale reflections from a single light. "We have given so many martyrs for this country," he says. "For us, America is very good." Most of his neighbors desire the ruling clergy. "No mullahs here," says one herdsman wandering up the muddy alleyway to his cave. "We don't want them."

The power of the clerics is most evident in Qom. This ancient city, 125 km south of Tehran, is where the Ayatollah Khamenei grew up and from where the religious elite continues to rule. Some like him unrepentantly from loudspeakers. You wouldn't want to be an American in this part of the



The eyes of the country's clerical rulers are everywhere (top), but in the relative safety of its rooms and homes, people sometimes let down their guard and speak their minds

country. Looking westward from Qom, the clergy eagerly welcome a post-Saddam Iraq, but for very different reasons than their secular counterparts. In Iraq, clerics like Karbala and An Najaf, Shia leaders are organizing some want to create an Islamic state. For more than 20 years, Iran financed Shia opposition groups in Iraq, and sheltered Shia clerics banned by Saddam. Now, a religious movement in Qom in April has urged Shia to return home and resist the "Great Satan."

American officials fear they will never allow a theocracy to take root in Iraq, and have warned Iran's militant clerics not to interfere. But many clerics in Qom believe the emergence of an Islamic state in Iraq would benefit them. "Iran is America's main target—that's what people in the religious community feel here," says Shabnam Hosseini, a 24-year-old student at the Imam Khomeini Madrasah, the largest religious school in the city. "That's what Afghanistan and Iraq were about. Most of the religious leaders feel a Shia government in Iraq would start American intervention in the region."

Like many in the religious establishment, Hosseini, an American citizen from Buffalo, has been studying in Qom for 10 years, a disciple of the clerics in Iran. He believes even American supporters in the country will rally behind the ruling clerics in the event of an attack. "The revolution might say, 'We'll rather have America,'" says Hosseini. "But when it comes down to it, they might not consider this government to be that much of an enemy as America that much of a threat."

But if the United States is successful in rebuilding Iraq's economy and creating a secular democracy, that could put pressure on Qom. Khamenei's regime is vulnerable, and if Iraq is successful in allowing Islam to flourish alongside democracy and economic growth, the regime's fall may finally become too much, and may trigger a second revolution.

So far, the clergy have closed their eyes to citizens' demands. Most refuse to acknowledge the economic crisis—some even say the government is giving everything it can to them. That suggestion brings an angry response. "If you're going to photograph the mullahs," says an photographer in Tehran, "do it in black and white. That's how they see the world." Many Iranians hope that democracy in Iraq will make such a bleak picture comically brighter.



Kamara, with her baby who was to die in a refugee camp (top left), hopes for new hands: Abbas (top) receiving initial treatment in Baghdad while others wait for help.

## A GRIM TOLL ON THE INNOCENT

The number of kids dying in conflicts is rising, writes **SUSAN MCCLELLAND**

Surgeons were forced to amputate both of Ali Abbas' arms after an errand U.S. bomb damaged his Baghdad home during the opening phase of the Iraq war. Pictures of the 12-year-old, who lost his parents in the attack, soon appeared on TV screens and in newspapers around the world. Since then, Abbas, who was treated in Kuwait, has come to represent a grim reality: all too often the victims of war are innocent children. Canada has become a safe haven for

many children who have escaped war or have travelled here to have their wounds treated. While some have found peace and security, many still live with their physical and emotional wounds. Their stories, like Abbas', are haunting.

**THE STUMPS** of Mariama Kamara's forearms poke out from the sleeves of her rough, brown wool sweater. Her black hair is braided and tied back in a ponytail, framing

her pretty face and large brown eyes. The 17-year-old from Sierra Leone, who is being cared for in a Toronto-area home, avoids the eyes of her visitors and guests mostly at her lap. When she does finally look up, she focuses on the hands of the person speaking to her. "I want new hands," she says after a few moments in a softly audible voice. "I came to Canada to get new hands."

Kamara was 13 in 1999 when the war-torn

country was hit by rebel soldiers. A threat to its one, she was just an African teenager who filled her days helping her family cultivate rice and cassava on their tiny farm near Lunsar in the north of the country. But the Revolutionary United Front, which had launched a drive in 1994 to overthrow the government, was conducting a destabilizing campaign of terror against Sierra Leone's civilian population. Kamara was one of the millions of children in 1999 who were held hostage for more than 10 hours and beaten and raped before the rebels brought out a machine. "They didn't tell me why they chopped off my hands," says Kamara. "They just said, 'Go to President [Ahmed Tejan] Kabbah and let him give you new hands.' I said to them, 'You have just done this to me, but I don't even know who this person is.'"

As many as 10,000 children, half of the children, had their limbs hacked off in Sierra Leone's bloody civil war. As appalling as that statistic is, it represents just a fraction of the children injured and killed in recent conflicts. In fact, the percentage of child casualties has been spiralling upward since the turn of the 20th century, while the number of soldiers dying on the battlefield steadily drops. Today, 90 per cent of war fatalities are children, of those, about half are children. The turning point was the Second World War, says professor Hsuehfang Hsiao-Yen at the Royal Military College in Kingston, Ont. "Before that, war was fought among soldiers," says Hsiao-Yen. "During the Second World War, armies began using weapons, including dioxin and nuclear bombs, on civilian populations."

In the current conflict in Iraq, the number of child victims is not yet known. But hospitals across the country are still filled with casualties, and Iraqi authorities say nearly 2,400 civilians had been killed or injured. At the same time, an estimated 2,300 Iraqi troops were thought to have died, while casualties among American and British soldiers numbered 162.

The children of Iraq had already suffered through a decade of hardship. Economic sanctions imposed by the UN in 1990 to force Saddam Hussein's regime to disarm resulted in high rates of infant mortality, with many children dying from easily preventable diseases like diarrhea and anemia. Prior to the latest fighting, more than a million children in Iraq were malnourished—and things are now worse. "Iraqi children are extremely vulnerable," says Carol Bellamy, UNICEF's executive director. "Two prior wars and years of international sanctions have combined to weaken the population."

The international community has enacted many human rights resolutions designed to protect children. Among them, the groundbreaking 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child during that war-torn country must do all they can to protect children. But the resolutions are unenforced. And, in fact, children increasingly find themselves used as human shields or as soldiers. UNICEF estimates that as many as 300,000 have been abducted during conflicts over the past decade, and forced to serve as soldiers, porters for weapons or as slaves. "Children have become hostages of the war," says Hsiao-Yen. "They've used as a kind of bargaining chip. But the sad reality is that children generally don't have any weight to bring on governments."

**WHEN** their brutal mission was complete, Kamara's brothers began to die. One died in the bush in a state of shock. (Medical experts say wounded children often do not bleed to death because their blood flow is chilled off when jugged can cause the arteries to go into spasm.) The second wound in a state of shock for two days until some villagers found her. Kamara was taken to a hospital

## Tell us about the local heroes in your community

The July 1 issue of *Maclean's* will feature our 17th annual Heroism Hall. This cover feature profiles 10 Canadians who have made an important difference to our country. Previous honorees include ranch dogranger Carolee in Robertson Davies, Robert Bensch, Robert LePage and Denis Knill.

We invite you, our readers, to submit nominations for the 2003 Heroism Hall, including testimonials of 50 words or less. To be eligible, candidates must be Canadian citizens who made a significant contribution to the life of the nation in the past 12 months.

*Maclean's* seeks people from a wide variety of fields, from the well-known to the quiet heroes. There is only one exception—those who are involved professionally in politics.



SEND YOUR SUBMISSIONS TO:  
The Editor, *Maclean's*  
One Mount Pleasant Road, 13th floor  
Toronto, ON, M5V 3V9  
OR CALL (416) 764-1332  
OR E-MAIL: heroism@maclean.ca

**MACLEAN'S** Canada. In depth.



## Children and War >

in Freeman, the nation's capital. She was soon joined by three cousins who also had their hands cut off, and by her mother, who had fled into the bush. After about a month, Karama and her family moved to a refugee camp near Freeman called Lami, where the kids gave birth to a son, Abdul, who was conceived during the rape. Food and medical help were scarce in the camp, and without hands, Karama couldn't properly care for Abdul. He died eight months later from malnutrition.

Although a peace treaty was signed in June 1999, fighting in Sierra Leone continued for another two years. Karama's home had been destroyed during the war so she remained at the refugee camp until last September, when beneficiaries in Outamba and the U.K. paid for her to come to Canada. Not enough funds were available for Karama's medical treatment when she arrived and the Sierra Leone community in trying to raise \$200,000, needed to care for her while she goes to school and to outfit her with prosthetic limbs. Asked about what she would like to do for the future, Karama sighs and looks down at her mangled arms. "I don't think," she says, after a long silence. "I try to forget. I live day by day."

**MANY** of the children of war end up orphaned, spending years in refugee camps where they have no legal status and often cannot go to school. "Orphaned children are more likely to be maltreated and susceptible to being recruited by rebel groups," says Dr. Josselyn Sima Ibrahim, president of Physicians for Global Survival and a child psychiatrist at McMaster University. "Some children believe that since the army killed their family, they are going to join the opposition group and try to kill them."

That's as dangerous as the world is for many children, those in care are brighter, open, based on their study of Canadians who escaped the Pol Pot regime as children and are now living in Montreal. The Cécile Houssain, a child psychiatrist at McGill University, has concluded that children do overcome the horror of war if given the resources, such as access to education. "There is a sense in many children that they must go on," says Karama. "It doesn't mean the hurt isn't there, but a child war survivor does find a mission to go on living life, often for their parents, siblings or friends who have been killed."

Sherry Edema and Bluma Edema, who

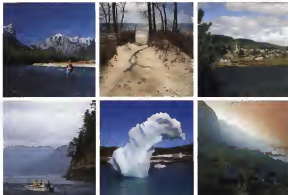
witnessed the results of murder and rape committed by Serbian forces, have managed to overcome the horror to rebuild their lives in Canada. In the spring of 1999, the Serbian army forced their family from their home in Miroslavac, a village in Kosovo. They joined thousands of people fleeing to refugee camps in neighboring Albania and Macedonia. For 72 hours, Edema, then 12, and Bluma, then 11, along with their family and about 30 neighbours, huddled on a trailer being pulled by a tractor. Ditches were filled with bodies, roads crisscrossed with thousands of refugees, among them women and girls who had been raped and abandoned, and children who had been separated from their parents. "We wanted to pack them up, but we couldn't," says Edema. "We didn't have room or time to sleep—we would be killed."

After spending time in refugee camps,

**"SOME CHILDREN believe that since the army killed their family, they are going to join the opposing group and try to kill them"**

Edema and Bluma were sent to Canada along with their family and almost 7,500 other Kosovo refugees. They arrived with nothing except a change of clothes, a few photographs of their old house and dreams of building a peaceful future. They and their family now live in Hamilton, after taking an intensive English course. Edema and Bluma entered the public school system and have maintained B-plus averages. Their lives are now normal. Bluma works part-time as a waitress and Edema is a dollar store. The walls of their bedrooms are decorated with magazine photographs of teen celebrities. Timmy Spoons, Justin Timberlake, and Miley Cyrus visiting U.S. troops stationed in Kosovo in 2001. Edema hopes to study early administration at college when she graduates from high school in two years. Bluma wants to be an accountant. "I feel safe. I can talk about what I want to do with my life and know that if I work hard, I can make it," says Bluma. "And I can sleep without nightmares and know when I wake up that my family will be there with me." All children should have the same experience.

## Cover



# CAN-TASTIC PLACES

Among this country's stellar travel destinations are some lesser-known delights

**IT USED TO BE** the only thing to fear during the annual summer vacation was being pillaged by your campsite, or getting stuck behind slow-moving RVs. Then, beset by scary news, some people are planning to stay home because of the West Nile virus or SARS.

And that's sad, because a summer holiday is a trouble-free thing to want. Heaven knows we could all use a good break out after the brutal winter from back. And we are programmed—by history, a sense of adventure or simple curiosity—to head the old adage, to see of Ontario gravel roads to see where they

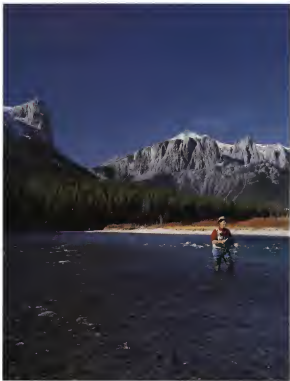
end, to stand in line waiting for trout, to drive into the silty waters of northern lakes, and to explore everything from mountain trails to cobblestone streets. But if a lot of people really do stay home, that means the rivers and highways and great outdoors will be less crowded and more fun for those willing to venture forth slathered in bug spray and sunscreen.

There are too many cool destinations to list all of them. But here are several options—places that aren't yet the first to come to mind but soon will be, and that have much to offer. We recommend that you, once the

rugged Viking Trail in western Newfoundland, ride the high trails in Nova Scotia's Miramichi, public the closed-up 48th Mile River in Quebec, overnight in historic homes along the Louisville Parkway in Ontario, discover the really big hills in southwestern Saskatchewan (no lie), trek through the Rockies near Canmore, Alta., rent a houseboat on Shuswap Lake in B.C. and trail for salmon off Vancouver Island. In between, there are historic sites and music festivals and roadside diners with excellent hash brown pointers. It's a big country, and that's the really good thing.

JAMES DOALON

COVER: L.L. THOMAS; TOP: JEFFREY STEEL; MOUNTAIN: ANDREW HARRIS; RIVER: ROBERT WOOD; ROCKIES: L.L. THOMAS; SASKATCHEWAN: JEFFREY STEEL; SHUSWAP LAKE: L.L. THOMAS; VIKING TRAIL: L.L. THOMAS



Canmore is controlling development to preserve its wildlife corridors; tourists are discovering the charms of the Cypress Hills (opposite)



## Canmore, Alta. | Rocky Mountain high and mighty

**WITH A HEARTY LAUGH**, Canmore Mayor Glen Craig recalls "the good old days." Thirty years ago, Canmore was a tiny mining community on the eastern outskirts of Banff National Park—little more than a pit stop for mountaineers headed for the tourist mecca of Banff, Lake Louise and Jasper. "The basic business sector was four restaurants and four gas stations along the highway," says Craig. "My family owned two of each plus two convenience stores. I sold a lot of gas and pops to chips, let me tell you."

Ah, how times change. The Canmore coal mine closed for good in 1979, and for a time it looked like the town might wither away. But then a funny thing happened. With Ontario clamping down on new developments within national parks, people have started looking for other places to enjoy the splendour of the Canadian Rockies. Starting about a decade ago, Canmore experienced a construction boom in new houses and condominiums, many of which serve as weekend residences for Californians, who live just an hour's drive away. Now, Canmore is becoming a tourist destination in its own right. Seven new hotels and two first-class golf courses have opened over the past five years, and a host of other high-end resorts and residential developments are just starting to come on stream.

The mayor points out that the community's determination to preserve wildlife corridors in the valley resulted in the area's biggest development project, the Three Sisters Mountain Village, being scaled back. Even so, the planned all-season resort, named for the two peaks looming over the southeastern

edge of Canmore, is massive. To be phased in over the next eight to 10 years, the "village" will include 3,500 residential units, two golf courses, a full-service spa and 1,650 hotel rooms. Many of the luxury homes are being gobbled up by Americans and Europeans, including one a British couple recently purchased, eight weeks, for \$950,000.

The central lure of Canmore is location, location, location. Surrounded by imposing peaks, the town boasts a skyline even more impressive than that of neighbouring Banff. Canmore also sits on the doorstep of Kananaskis Country, a 4,060-sq.-km network of provincial parks and protected areas containing some of the most accessible, yet largely unspoiled, Rocky Mountain backcountry around. "We're surrounded by wilderness and old forests," boasts Craig. "It's a paradise, really."

—MICHAEL BIRCHMAN

### WHERE TO STAY

- **MANROBOT RESIDENCE INN** Recently opened and part of the Three Sisters development, it offers spacious rooms, a wooded setting and fabulous views. 877-555-6888 [www.manrobotresidenceinn.com](http://www.manrobotresidenceinn.com)
- **HOWARD JOHNSTON HOTEL** A good choice for budget-conscious travellers, it has a pool and three-story water slide. 800-671-6006 [www.hjhotel.com](http://www.hjhotel.com)

### WHERE TO EAT

- **GAZZELY PAN FRYING COMPANY** Features burgers, its own home-brewed and, in summer, pizza from an outdoor wood-fired oven. 403-678-9563 [www.thegazzelypan.com/food.htm](http://www.thegazzelypan.com/food.htm)
- **SLAMM! CAFE** Located near Cougar Creek, it's a beloved spot for breakfast, Mexican fare and margaritas. 403-698-1120

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

- 800-226-8073 [info@tourismcanmore.com](mailto:info@tourismcanmore.com)

## Cypress Hills, Sask. | Bumps and beauty on the Prairies

**FOR THOSE** who still think of the Prairies as flat and desolate, this one's for you. The Cypress Hills of south-western Saskatchewan and south-eastern Alberta rise 600 m above the surrounding plains, forming the highest point of land between Labrador and the Canadian Rockies. Here, moose, elk and deer rove among towering forests of lodgepole pine and white spruce, while looks like the a truly naturalized Bald Eagle offer breathtaking views of grasslands rolling as far as the eye can see. There's even that ultimate Prairie oasis: small, pristine lakes with sandy beaches.

Linked by an interpretational park, the Cypress Hills are just a half-hour drive south of the Trans-Canada Highway. Yet millions start by obliviously on their way to or from the tourist magnet that is the Rockies. That's starting to change. David Mason, manager for the more developed Saskatchewan side of the park, says an FMI ad advertising the charms of the hill country lured thousands last summer. And tourist traffic from Alberta builds steadily each year, now accounting for more than a third of all visits. The area attracts mainly families, drawn by the campsites and kid-friendly amenities. "There are people who want something not as commercialized as theme parks," notes Mason. "They find that here."

—B.B.

### WHERE TO STAY

- **CYPRESS HILLS RESORT INN** About 35 km south of Maple Creek, Sask., it's pretty much the only guest in town—with affordable cabins and hotel rooms, and many modern condominium units. 306-682-4477 [www.cypresshillsresortinn.com](http://www.cypresshillsresortinn.com)

### WHERE TO EAT

Definitely a long-year-on-road destination.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

- 306-682-5404 [www.cypresshillsresortinn.com](http://www.cypresshillsresortinn.com) Sask. Mtd





## Great Northern Peninsula, Nfld. | Stark land of ghosts

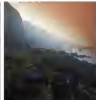
**THERE'S NOTHING** like a drive up New Brunswick's Great Northern Peninsula to help you understand your proper place in the grand scheme of things. It's hard to feel you do once while whizzing down a desolate highway past glacier-grooved fjords, mountains five times older than the Rockies and herds of caribou that have been migrating through windwept barrens for eons. On the western side of Newfoundland—where, in many places, moose outnumber people—it doesn't really matter how much your house assessment went up last year: one of those arcticland giants, I was repeatedly warned, could stomp you underfoot onto the road and send my spirit to join the long-ago Grosvenor Paleo-bison.

So, yes, the Viking Trail, which runs up the western side of the island, is just the tonic for the puffed entrance. Be forewarned: it's nothing like walking St. John's. And the best examples of Newfoundland's unique, miniature outposts are hundreds of kilometers away on the island's eastern end. Over here, you have to scuffle for egg-y cliffs, winds that blow trees flat, polar bears that sometimes scratch at back doors—and the just. You can walk in the footsteps of Leif Erikson who, along with a small band of followers, established the first known European settlement in North America 1,000 years ago, in what is now L'Anse-au-Loup on Newfoundland's northern tip.

There's so much to see, it can be overwhelming. Gros Morne National Park, a UNESCO world heritage site, is an absolute must-see. Heading north, you pass the province's rarest, most remote stretch of



Off northwest Newfoundland, you can see icebergs made of 15,000-year-old ice; the Bay of Fundy's sea and tides with life like top right



shore. Want to sit in a boat sipping of hand-dried merris from an iceberg made of ice formed in Greenland 15,000 years ago? Got a hankering to watch a humpback whale—one of the dozen different species sighted in the area—breach at close range?

Whole stretches of the area look and feel just like the High Arctic. But this could be nowhere else but Newfoundland. You know that when you drive through places called Cape Head, River of Ponds and Wild Light. Most of all, you realize it when someone you've known for a few minutes asks you to join them for a little something to ward off the cold. If you're lucky they'll use a chunk of iceberg to chill the beverage. And that freezing noise you hear as the ice melts will be the sound of air captured 15,000 years being released in a place where the ghosts of ancient warriors still haunt the shoreline.

JOHN SCHWARTZ

### WHERE TO STAY

- **SIGAB HILL INN** This Harris Point establishment offers well-appointed rooms, fine dining and a view of Gros Morne National Park. 800-270-2747 [www.sigabinn.com](http://www.sigabinn.com)
- **TUCKAMORE LODGE** With its easy access to great fishing, hunting and hiking, this comfortable place in Miramichi boasts outdoor-type 100-600-6461 [www.tuckamore-lodge.com](http://www.tuckamore-lodge.com)

### WHERE TO EAT

- **SEASIDE RESTAURANT** Valleys to Trout River, a small village with a big view, can get traditional Newfoundland fish and brews here. 360-451-1444
- **LIGHTKEEPERS CAFE** At the St. Anthony spot, you can eat fresh seafood and watch whales and icebergs through the window. 709-454-4088

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

- 800-563-4353 [www.gov.nl.ca/newfoundland](http://www.gov.nl.ca/newfoundland)

## Minas Basin, N.S. | Highest tides, funkiest artisans

**LOOKING FOR** an escape that combines stunning scenery, history and a dash of old-fashioned adventure? Nova Scotia's Minas Basin—the inner end of the Bay of Fundy—is just the ticket. Where else can you kayak in the world's highest tides, pass towering cliffs, charming fishing villages and artisanries teeming with life. Back on land, you can drive along a stretch of picturesque road and stop twice where the tides have stopped every 200 million years of geological history. Scientists have made some of the continent's most important fossil finds here.

Then you can head to Annapolis Royal, where, in 1605, French explorers established Port Royal, this country's oldest continuous European settlement. From there it's minutes to Bear River, a funky place with roadside bistros built on stilts and aging hippie artisans who provide a caught-on-a-time-when-it-matters. Then, you will need to take two ferries to fabled Brer Island, site of many shipwrecks.

### WHERE TO STAY

- **PINES RESORT** This historic-style retreat has an 18-hole golf course. 502-748-2111 [www.pinesresort.com](http://www.pinesresort.com)
- **MILFORD HOUSE** A more rustic option, 21 km south of Annapolis Royal, where you can canoe on the Millpond lakes. 877-532-5761 [www.milfordhouse.ca](http://www.milfordhouse.ca)

### WHERE TO EAT

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## St-Maurice River, Que. | An abused waterway reborn

**THERE ARE** many good reasons why the St-Maurice River remains a secret. For decades, the powerful Quebec waterway, which flows into the St. Lawrence halfway between Montreal and Quebec City, has been a toxic-waste disposal site. Aluminum smelters, paper mills and other heavy industry placed Shawinigan and Trois-Rivières among the wealthiest cities in Canada 50 years ago, but also used the river as a workhorse—to float logs, cool down machines, produce power and “leave” waste. There was a silver lining to the industrial obsolescence that has devastated the region’s economy: the St-Maurice has been cleaned up, and it now yearns to explore and enjoy. You can drive up to La Tuque, 150 km north of Trois-Rivières, next a canoe for a day or two and paddle downstream all the way to Grand-Mère, almost 300 km south. You can camp on islands in the middle of the river, or in Mauricie National Park. In Shawinigan, make sure to visit La Cité de l’énergie, a hands-on history and technology museum, and climb to its 115-m-high observatory, built on top of a discarded hydro tower. **BONNIE AUSTIN**

### WHERE TO STAY

■ **GITE LANCESTRAIL** This Grand-Mère hot looker over the St-Maurice. 888-526-7758

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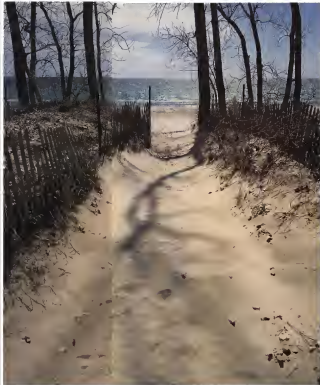
## Prince Edward County, Ont. | Life's a beach, with history

**CONTRARY** to popular belief, you can swim in Lake Ontario. Two and a half hours east of the Big Smoke, where the hills haven't yet been levelled for subdivisions and the seashore highway curves away from the shore, there's a corner of Upper Canada with clean water, fresh breezes and the sound of crickets at night. The shores of Prince Edward County—The County to choose in the know—are't necessarily undiscovered, just overlooked. After all, it's been more than 225 years since the first settlers—Loyalists fleeing the American Revolution—got down sticks. And people have probably been seeking summer refuge along the area's bays and beaches for almost as long.

It's a haven for sunbathers. Sandbanks Provincial Park boasts three of the province's largest, safest swimming areas as well as swimming when dunes. And for those who prefer less crowded sands, The County's 400 km of shoreline provide countless alternatives.

History buffs will find their pleasure in the dozens of old public buildings and stately homes (many now converted to bed and breakfasts) that dot the communities along Highway 33—the Loyalist Parkway. Tourist attractions claim the area is second only to Williamsburg, Va., for its reminders of North America's colonial past. And every long summer day can be bettered away exploring towns and villages like Wellington, Bloomfield and Picton, taking tea or shopping for antiques and gifts.

Deeper into the area's eastern reaches there are spectacular views to be had from the Lake on the Mountain, a geological oddity on a cliff 62 m above the Bay of Quinte.



Sandbanks Provincial Park boasts three of Ontario's largest, safest swimming areas: Grande Pile, Ont. (overlooks a revitalized St-Etienne) (opposite)

At Waspoose, on the southern shore, you can stop for a glass of adult apple pie at the County Cider Co., or taste some wine from the half-dozen wineries who now ply their trade in the area where German immigrants crashed some of Ontario's first grapes in the late 18th century. The old Hark River Cheese factory in Milford burned down a couple of years back, but the new version still sells the same tangy cheddar, and ice cream comes big enough to keep the kids in the back seat quiet until sundown.

Close to the city, but still governed by the rhythms of the country, Prince Edward County is the perfect place for a lazy week or weekend. But hurry—judging by the growing number of Toronto deer fly-bites parked at the A&P, it won't stay unspoiled for long. **JONATHAN SATERHOUSE**



### WHERE TO STAY

■ **TRIM'S GRANDVIEW MANOR** This elegant 2850 house, 20 km north of Picton, is among the dozens of charming B & Bs in the County. 800-635-9659 [www.priced.com](http://www.priced.com)

■ **SALAM FLAMES RESORT** Ideal for family travellers, the West Lake facility has a pool, a private beach and a restaurant. 800-716-2355

### WHERE TO EAT

■ **THE CRISP WAGON OUTSIDE THE TAMBO VARIETY STORE** A visit to this venerable establishment, near the entrance to Sandbanks, is the perfect way to break up an afternoon at the beach.

■ **THE WALKING HORSE** More sophisticated evening options can be satisfied at this restaurant on Highway 33, where the prime rib can be washed down with a glass of the local pinot.

800-481-4166 [www.priced.com/walkinghorse](http://www.priced.com/walkinghorse)

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■ 888-421-4556 [www.priced.com](http://www.priced.com)



If you don't feel like fishing in Johnstone Strait, there's always accommodations, some! Houseboats on Skewisip Lake are pretty luxurious (opposite)



### Campbell River, B.C. | On intimate terms with salmon

**IMMATURE COHOS** are salmon of minimal common sense. They're lining up to shove themselves on my hook, secure in the knowledge that late April afternoon that their tender age and modest size make them strictly catch and release. Come fall, they'll be five rings. For now, a taste of the barflies hooks and they play back into Johnstone Strait, the ocean corridor between Vancouver Island and north of Campbell River and the mass of islands off the B.C. mainland. One fish, just two pounds—but full of bad attitude and other stuff—ends up all over the boat. The rest of a very immature Coho.

Two women in a nearby boat, fellow guests of Campbell River's historic Pioneer Lodge, display a both-eyed, 15-lb. chinook. They try not to gloat. Despite our limited luck this afternoon, guide Ron Lam, just 29 but a 13-year veteran of Pioneer's, is proffering a repeat of last year's banner season, which saw huge catches throughout B.C.'s \$600-million a year sport fishing industry. One of his clients hooked in a 51-lb. salmon. "The guy came from California," says Lam. "I'd never fish a day in his life."

The trophy fish aren't co-opting today, but it's easy to see why rose anglers are increasingly drawn to the adventure and excitement offered by many of the estimated 130 fishing lodges on B.C.'s coast. Lam singles out close to a dozen massive Skelly's as hot spots looking on a rock outcrop that their cloud of fish breathes without the boat. A flock of Bonaparte's gulls bathes in the rising current. An eagle makes a screaming dive, almost ripping a wahoo off my line. "It's one big food chain out here," says Lam. That

enough, though I'm reduced to casting average on a solid fish that evening at Pioneer's excellent restaurant.

Pioneer's Lodge is both the past and the future of sport fishing in B.C. Ned and June Hunter began with a rustic camp in 1926. Today the rebuilt lodge is one of seven B.C. Bay Marine Group. A fly in three-day package, including airfare from Vancouver, accommodation and two guided fishing trips, costs \$349 per person, double occupancy, in summer high season. Dive in and low-season rates are cheaper.

This is the second spring break here for southern Sue and Kerry McIlroy of Burnaby, north of Vancouver. The couple have never fished. They came for scenery and a relaxing getaway. "Last night we went to sleep listening to the waves lapping in," says Kerry. Another morning, however, has them dressed for adventure. They're out in survival gear, wading over the waves in one of the lodge's high-speed inflatable boats. It's past noon, and the sun is low. A black bear forages on shore, eagles soar, sea lions play. A scup at a fish farm yells news that the season's first killer whale has been spotted in the channel. The McIlroys reemerge, exhausted, if bothered by the elements and head for the lodge's pool and hot tubs. One of their tasks, they say, they may miss: fly fishing.

SEN MACQUEEN

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

■ **CHIK-BAY MARINE GROUP**  
604-863-7666 [www.chik-bay.com](http://www.chik-bay.com)  
■ **THE SPORT FISHING INSTITUTE OF B.C.**  
[www.sportfishing.bc.ca](http://www.sportfishing.bc.ca)  
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### Sicamous, B.C. | Pampered in a floating paradise

**REKOLD** Genesis 75, the flagship of Waterway Houseboat fleet on B.C.'s Shuswap Lake, a six-hour drive from either Vancouver or Calgary. Waterway—one of the oldest of nine houseboat companies clustered near the lake-side community of Sicamous—once dealt in a modest product line: camping on piers. Now Sicamous, the self-proclaimed "Houseboat Capital of Canada," is home to more than 350 houseboats of ever-increasing size and luxury. "Every year I still stand back in amazement," says Waterway's owner John Vinje. "They went there bigger."

Waterway, like its rivals, has a range of sizes and prices. A 40-ft. vessel, which sleeps 16, rents for \$1,236 for a four-day spring cruise. The 75-ft. Genesis sleeps 20, and rents for \$3,995 a week in the summer high season. It's equipped with eight restaurants, four bathrooms, a full kitchen and such standard on-board toys as a water slide, hot tub, fish scarer, TV and a floeplate.

The Shuswap, with four distinct arms and 1,000 km of shoreline, has an amazing capacity to absorb traffic from kayakers to lake yachts. Some boaters make a beeline for popular party beaches, while others seek out remote coves. The lake has 25 marinas, golfing, water skiing and a comforting array of marmos, pelts and deliver-to-the-dock grocery stores. "We jape," says Doreen Fowl, executive director of the Sicamous and District Chamber of Commerce. With snow lingering in the nearby mountains into June, "we can offer you snowmobiling, houseboating and golfing all in the same weekend," she says. "You won't find that anywhere else."

K.M.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

■ **Tourism Shuswap**  
800-861-4800 [www.shuswap.bc.ca](http://www.shuswap.bc.ca)







# ADIEU TO SEPARATISM?

Jean Charest could end Quebec's independence movement

"YOU! JEAN CHARST!" yelled at me across the hall. "Fuu!" he repeated, focusing on my bald head. "How can you accuse me of having a bad hair day?"

Then, we both burst into laughing. My excitement had become pointless by the second garden step of his battle thirly by the sweeping speech he had just given to the 1991 Tory leadership convention. Too smooth by half, Charost had sounded like a bored lounge singer, substituting technique for substance. Kim Campbell put the nod, and promptly fell on her sword. Charost was one of only two Tories who survived the general election that followed, pramping the job on Parliament Hill that his perky wife, Michèle, was sleeping with half the Conservative circus.

That was a decade ago, and last week the same Jean Charost (sporting a fresh haircut) was sworn in as the first federalist premier of Quebec since, well, the last one. I put it that way because Quebec politicians are usually seen using between being pragmatic rationalists and national pragmatists. Charost will be an exception. But unlike his less-spoken federalist-minded predecessors, his winning victory at the polls on April 14 gives him the right and the seat to bring down the curtain on Quebec's independence movement.

THE FATHER of modern separatism in Quebec was an all but forgotten speculator in chemical warfare, who earned a doctorate from McGill University and became high-ranking scientist with the Defence Research Board in Ottawa. Marcel Chaput launched his *Rassemblement pour l'Indépendance Nationale* in 1960, which Jean Lévesque later credited as being the catalyst for his own dedication to the cause. It was somehow typically Canadian that the leader of the founding movement, dedicated to the destruction of Canada (for *ours*, the Gensets), turned out to be not a hollow-eyed neo-fascist in a military suit badge, but a middle-class federal civil servant in a dark

blue suit, occupying a suburban bungalow. Chaput was a highly intelligent and engaging speaker, but his timing was premature—and he ended his days as a hearing aid salesman.

IN THE EARLY 1960s, I would fly to Quebec City two or three times a year to interview premier Jean Lesage. Eric Robit, Lévesque and some of the other ministers accompanying the Quiet Revolution. As part of my rounds, I joined opposition leader Daniel Johnson for a drink at La Place de la Fontaine, the grand central bar at the Château Frontenac. Unfathomably courteous, poking fun at me for taking la grande politique of the rising provincial Liberals so seriously, Johnson would expound on his own low-

key we live in Canada as a group." Then he would fly back to Quebec City and say: "I'm not Quebecers can live in Canada as a group, we'll separate!" Journalists would submit one statement from the other, and up with one, and Johnson would attack them for misinterpreting his position. The premier's bible was his own book, *Égalité et indépendance*. In its chilling final sentence remains the best summary of Quebec's aspirations: "Where the French-Canadian nation finds its freedom, there too will be its homeland."

ROBERT BOURASSA, the premier in charge of Quebec during the FLQ crisis of 1970, was brand new to power, still hoping for his diploma from Oxford and darned would self-govern him from the violence sweeping Montreal. He seemed to be all but rimmed glasses and Adam's apple, beseeching help from Ottawa to protect his authority from the militant forces of popular dissent. Unlike most of his predecessors and successors, he never endorsed Quebec separatism with prayers for lost citizenship, but saw provincial independence and Ottawa's federalism as two sides of an economic equation that he intended to balance in his province's favour. His appointment of his own power trying to determine which side would win, so he could pass it.

A VERY DIFFERENT and much more compelling character was René Lévesque, who dominated Quebec political scene for the decade after his 1976 defeat of a disastrous Bourassa. During his apprenticeship as Quebec's top mind on economic issues, Lévesque became a master of the spoken word in both of Canada's official languages. He learned how to give the appearance of negotiating, using delectable phrases to bolster his message. The appeal to his listeners lay in his ability to wash away their doubts of having lived two centuries as "a conquered people," leaving them to rise out of the colonial cloud and be filled with love and wonder.



If the Quebec separatist movement did nothing but produce Lévesque, it would have been worth it. He realized that politics is not a science decided by the elegant droppings of computers, but an exercise in strategy filled with dissonance and chaotic merit. His election campaign had the feel of these Second World War films glorifying the French Resistance: all throwaway banter and noble orations. He was at his best during ad-hoc news conferences, having mastered the art of the verbal sleight

of hand. A question, he would answer, not to protect himself, but to show a child does who passes to come up with a detailed reply. In blue eyes during his hyper moments from one camera to another, Lévesque kept knowing that some of his best friends were QSOs, and that somehow we would all survive and prosper together. René Lévesque was a romantic in politics, but eventually gave up his quest. Like his over-pronounced, his political agenda turned into a socially unacceptable form of suicide.

JACQUES PARIZEAU, who eventually succeeded him—first came Perry-Mark Johnson for two years—was best known for the description of his conversion during a cross-country train trip in 1987: "When I left Montreal's Windsor Station, I was a federalist," went his mantra. "When I arrived in Banff, I was a separatist." (To read other defections, the *Bluenorth* Conservative killed the VIA train to Banff.) Parizeau never stopped blabbing through his mantras, blabbing all but pure lies. Quebec for the province's independence. He pointed out the province's citizens could still use the Canadian dollar and retain their Canadian passports, but would be encouraged to leave Ottawa and make fun of Toronto. Nobody believed him, but because that's what being Canadian is all about.

His next mistake after losing the 1990 referendum drive him out of office, and even in this election he was cornered as a liability to the Parti Québécois campaign and was forced to be winged in France.

LUCIEN BOUCHASSA, who took over the PQ in January 1996 was a much more serious threat to the Canadian future. He lacked Lévesque's charm, but was clearly a heavy-weight. Even his long and one were clear: main. I had trouble interviewing him or even watching him on TV, because every time he appeared I imagined (like a character out of *Aly McEwen*) that he was accompanied by a team of men in black, playing the hoodlums from a New York office. He was the boss, grandiose—a scary villain, born on delving the colonists' lives. His wife, Monique Bouchassa added a certain stock of documentation, though he had written parties and parties half a dozen times. These twin men enabled him to win a political election who could not be bought, but certainly could be named.

Against this potent appeal, Ottawa's last attempt to come out of the separatist movement called the "distinct society" option. It was the perfect Canadian political play-along everyone else was against it, except those who wanted that it was meaningful. I stepped back to take seriously Bouchassa's son, Bernard Landry, when during a 1994 interview with the French magazine *L'Express* he claimed that under English Canada's rule, "Quebec's population has reached a catastrophe irreparable

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### Essay >

to the Chernobyl nuclear catastrophe." I feared that absurd comparison on his slight overreaction to the pending loss of the Nordiques, the hockey team then in the process of abandoning Quebec City. In terms of the independence debate, it placed Landry not only outside the box, but outside the warehouse. After his devastating electoral defeat last month, he declared angrily, "Severignty is progressing more during our opposition time."

Loag may be right.

**NOW, HERE COMES** Jean Charest. He appears younger than his 44 years, but has been in politics for two stormy decades, and what he has learned is to function as much on the basis of his thoughts as his feelings. The youngish cabinet minister in Canadian history when he was sworn into the Mulroney cabinet in 1988, he has learned much in the interval. Patience has become his middle name and he has kept his in the political game when Mulroney's law firms were waving bid employment contracts at him. He comes on office just as most of Quebec's women realize that their personal and collective interests are better protected within the larger entity of Canada, than with the neurotic isolation de rigueur of independence in an interdependent world.

Charest will be the first Quebec premier who feds at home to 10 provinces, having scored their every nook and cranny in a federal minister and later as Tory leader. He will battle Ottawa as hard as he will his predecessors, but it will be for two points, to be spent within a united Canada.

At the same time, those of us who care about the future of Canada must not allow the two solitudes of the past to become the twin latitudes of the present. For once, Canada seems lucky. No duo of politicians assumes greater potential for leading national reform than Paul Martin and Jean Charest. (And, hey, Jean is 28 years younger than Paul. Guess who'll have the honour of succeeding the man most likely to be the next prime minister of Canada.)

Whatever their decision and execution, Quebec separatists have benefited hugely from their vibrant politics and sure source of place. English Canada must now follow suit. Jean Charest cannot succeed with our US.

### BUSINESS | BY ALAN BILTMAN

## VICTORIES ON AND OFF THE ICE

The Ottawa Senators may have a shot at the Cup and, with new ownership, survival

**THE DAY AFTER** Ottawa's only big-league sports team, the hockey Senators, dropped a 2-0 slugfest to the Philadelphia Flyers last week, there was still joy in hockey's Middle West. The local hero's chance of emerging from the second round of the National Hockey League playoffs—something they have failed to accomplish in six previous tries—may not have become better, but the league had approved the sale of the perpetually cash-strapped franchise to Toronto pharmaceutical billionaire Eugene Melnyk.

The lawyers have some crossing and T-crossing to do," cautioned league commissioner Gary Bettman. But he added it was his "belief" that all would be well.

Even casual followers of the Senators' news know how madcap these times I and T's can be. Ottawans have been living with the threat that the Senators might pull up stakes and move south of the border—like the Quebec Nordiques and Winnipeg Jets—almost from the drop of the first puck in 1992. The franchise's original owner, Bruce McNamara, soon had to be rescued by local entrepreneur Red Bryden, who borrowed heavily to keep the team in town. By 1999, even though the Senators were winning regularly on the ice, the team and its arena were drowning in debt. So Bryden began a four-year attempt to infuse \$300 million in new equity, but that ended in failure earlier this year.

With Melnyk, the Senators are getting something neither Patience nor Bryden could provide—deep pockets. The Bivoli Corp. CEO, who lives in Barbados for his reasons, owns about \$1.6 billion worth of his Minnesota-based company's stock. Unlike his predecessor, who needed other people's money to finance the team, Melnyk's



If Maurice Morin scores and Eugene Melnyk buys, there could be celebrations in the capital

promised to pay out for the squad and the Carol Centre. And if the price, it'll be on the cheap—he's reportedly offering between \$115 and \$125 million for a team that was the NHL's best in the regular season, and for the seven-year-old arena. Trouble is, his purchase agreement is conditional on acquiring the Carol Centre, which cost \$170 million to build, at the sale price of about \$15 million. And once the arena's creditors, US-based Covanta Energy, is reportedly owed \$30.7 million and has yet to agree on the marketplace.

Then there's the question of whether Ottawa, with a population of 774,000, can play in the big league. The team is again a legitimate Stanley Cup contender, but not all of this year's playoff games have been sold. And since the collapse of the city's high-tech sector, the Senators have lost several corporate season ticket and game-day revenues. On the plus side, Ontario Premier Ernie Eves suggested the province may forgive all or some of the \$21 million it owes by the franchise for constructing the freeway interchange that serves the arena.

Despite the doubts, Ottawans appear to be optimistic. Marney Morrongiello, a

lawyer who co-chairs the Ottawa Senators Community Coalition group, formed in January to work ways to keep the team in the city, says he's confident Melnyk can succeed where Bryden failed. "I don't know if anybody could have made a go of a team with Bryden had to deal with," Morrongiello says. As well as local economic problems, that included having to pay player salaries in US dollars at a time when the Canadian dollar was wobbling at a record low. But Ottawa's population is growing—meaning more potential ticket sales—and the income is rising in value. If the region's slumping high-tech sector recovers even a little, Morrongiello adds, Melnyk's purchase "will be a very sound business investment."

Melnyk isn't overreacting to the deal's final. In the meantime, the biggest financial benefit will come if the Senators break their habit of early playoff exit and go all the way to win Lord Stanley's mug. That would add millions of dollars in ticket revenues from the extra home playoff games, and boost civic pride. And if Melnyk's purchase is opposed, the team that once seemed destined to be knocked out by financial woes could emerge a double winner—on and off the ice.



## CITIES UNDER STRESS

A coalition of municipalities is about to declare war on the provinces and Ottawa

**THE DOCUMENT** was succinctly labelled "Through Talk." But the letter was published in a sleek Toronto conference room in mid-April had plenty to say about the solstice of their city. There was former Ontario premier Bill Davis alongside former Toronto-Dominion Bank CEO Charles Ballihy, there were labour leaders and heads of charities and board of civic executives. Banded together at the Toronto City Summit Alliance, they outlined plans for everything from reform to transit to managing congestion. And they vowed to ensure that federal and provincial politicians responded to their demands. "We formed a consensus across a diverse group that will be hard for governments to ignore," warns alliance chair David Pearson. "We are going to be heard; everybody feels things have still done it. And we are going to be relentless."

That gathering was one skirmish in an unrelenting war between the nation's cities and their provinces and the federal government. Robert KARR, before the war in Iraq, the plight of urban Canada was the last time. Ottawa and the provinces seemingly understood that their own economic health hinges on their own infrastructure. And those cities, condemned to rely on property taxes for a large chunk of their revenue, are slipping behind. Their problem is that property tax income does not grow automatically as the economy grows—so cities have been increasingly strapped for cash. The report shows it will cost an estimated \$57 billion just to repair decaying infrastructure—and that tab is growing by \$3 billion a year.

Urban advocates found their hopes on the February federal budget. And they agreed with Ottawa's demand when it added only \$5 billion over 10 years to its infrastructure funds, including just \$1 billion for smaller city projects like bridge repair. "There was a lot of meanness last year for cities," says James Knight, CEO of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. "The budget was absolutely a disappointment."

Remarkably, the mayors and their allies are fighting back—in a way that Canada has never seen before. On May 25, the day before the federation holds its annual four-day meeting in Winnipeg, the Greater Cities Coalition will hold its first official summit. Don't be fooled by the bland title. Sponsored by the PCM and the City of Winnipeg, it will bring together politicians from all levels of government, including other provinces, as well as each city's business, cultural, labour and community leaders. In effect, it is a large-scale replica of the Toronto summit.

But while the Toronto group has been lobbying behind the scenes, the new cities coalition intends to be far more militant. In effect, the mayors will emerge from that session with a declaration of war so polite war on provincial and federal governments.

**IN THE END, of course, the debate over funding civic programs is not really about money: it is about power. And cities have very little.**

Then they are launching a tough, 12-month advertising campaign to drive home their demands. They even intend to play a reform role in the next federal election, challenging parties to outline their program on cities. "Mayor," observes Winnipeg's incumbent, Glen Murray, "have not used their popular support to make us a greater the new provinces and provinces have."

Now we are seeing it in time."

The plan of attack is clear. Coalition cities across the country will distribute a glossy kit containing key municipal facts in their communities. That will coincide with the ad campaign designed to "link us in an urban renaissance." Provinces will be asked to adopt a standardized urban charter that the 21-member City Mayors' Caucus of the PCM drew up last year, one that would give

cities more power to raise money. Ottawa will be asked to find \$2 billion per year for infrastructure—and the cities will offer to match those funds. "This is a new deal for cities," says Murray firmly.

Such over-munality has Ottawa on the defensive. Transport Minister David Collette recently the budget was examined with civic leaders—including \$405 million over three years for the success and an extra \$325 million over five years for affordable housing. (Ottawa already set aside \$480 million over the years for housing in 2001.) "The criticism was a leap up," he told Maclean's. "Perhaps we did not explain ourselves properly."

To disprove that message, Collette, as the minister responsible for federal housing programs, met in mid-April with his provincial counterparts, reviewing his request that they match Ottawa's \$1 billion housing kitty. Although the program could create 32,000 affordable units, only 1,300 have been completed, mostly in Quebec and B.C. The major hold up is Ontario, which has just cancelled matching funds for only 2,000 out of 10,000 possible units. Now, Ontario, among other provinces, certainly is willing—but its purse is strained. In response, Collette may funnel housing money directly to non-for-profit groups, bypassing provincial governments. And he cites this group's attitude as proof that Ottawa does respond to cities' needs. "All I know is we are frustrated," he says. "And we are going to pressure provinces to match as we can to see that this money is spent."

In the end, of course, it is a matter of money and power. And cities have very little. Under the Constitution, municipalities are creatures of the provinces. And provinces rarely pay much heed to the federal grid of urban government, scattering funds for road repair don't have the same glamorous public-education savings. Ottawa, as far, cannot deal directly with cities. In Ottawa such as Prince and British, central governments look cities to pay partners in the new economy—and the relationship goes far beyond mere money. That has not happened here: the three levels of government do not meet as equal partners on an ongoing basis to coordinate plans and spending. So the mayors are all in war. If they win, peace could be long in coming.

Mary Javigan's column appears twice a month. [javigan@macleans.ca](mailto:javigan@macleans.ca)



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# RECOVERING FROM SCANDAL

The head of Canadian Blood Services says the agency is gaining public trust

CANADA'S BLOOD supply system recovered a black eye in the 1990s with the discovery that thousands of patients had received transfusions tainted with HIV and hepatitis C. Acting on the recommendations of the 2007 Tower commission, the federal government took the Canadian Red Cross out of the blood business. In its place, it established Canadian Blood Services, an independent, not-for-profit agency that collects, tests and distributes blood throughout Canada—apart from Quebec, which set up its own agency. Today, thanks to a new approach and more stringent safety measures, Canadians can have total confidence in their blood system, says CBS chief executive officer Dr. Graham Silver. Donations are up 10 per cent over the past five years, providing adequate supply for the Canadians who receive transfusions each year. With the agency facing fresh challenges due to the outbreak of new diseases such as severe acute respiratory syndrome, or SARS, and the West Nile virus, Silver talks with *Maclean's* Ottawa correspondent Julian Barlow.

## Should Canadians have any concerns about giving and receiving blood?

Let me say that the blood supply in Canada today is certainly among the safest in the world, if not the safest. The risk of a unit of blood escaping through the system undetected with HIV today is around one in 44 million. With the hepatitis C virus, it's probably one in 3.5 million. And I think Canadians do have more confidence. Our polling tells us public trust in the system has gone up enormously in the past five years. There remains a fragile trust, so we're making sure the system is much more open and accountable and that we inform Canadians about exactly what the risks are and what we are doing to mitigate them.

## What lessons do you learn from the tainted blood scandal?

The first is that you have to err on the side of caution. The best example is our response

to mad cow disease and, much more recently, the SARS public health threat. We're taking precautionary measures even though there is no real evidence that these agents are spread through the blood supply.

## What are you doing?

For mad cow, there is no test available to determine if an individual is infected, so we've set up a series of criteria that rejects people who had travelled to parts of the world where mad cow was epidemic, most notably the United Kingdom, France and parts of western Europe. We ask prospective donors a series of travel-related questions, and if they visited those areas for three months consecutively or more since 1980, they are not able to donate blood. I can't donate because I've spent more than three months in the U.S. since 1980. For SARS, there's also no test yet, so we say if you have travelled in recent weeks to any of the cities or countries designated as trouble spots by the World Health Organization—Vietnam, mainland China, Hong Kong, Singapore—you cannot donate blood for 34 days after returning. The reason it's only 34 days is because SARS has a very short incubation period. If you haven't developed symptoms within 34 days, you're not going to get it. We aren't deferring everybody who has travelled to Toronto because it would take out 25 per cent of our blood supply. What we do there is, anybody who had exposure to any of the quarantined health facilities in Toronto, then they are also deferred for 34 days.

## What improvements have you made in the way you handle blood?

The biggest difference is that, since 1999, we've been taking white blood cells out of all donated blood. We were the first country to do this for our whole blood supply. White blood cells are of no value and they are a potential hazard. They are traditionally the cells responsible for carrying viruses and causing immune effects in people who

receive blood. For instance, cancer patients, whose immune systems are suppressed anyway—if they get a lot of white blood cells from transfusions, it can cause all sorts of immune reactions ranging from fever and chills to fatal outcomes. This wasn't done before because the technology was very new, and it was very expensive. Even today, only a few countries do this for their whole blood supply.

## What are you doing to make sure the West Nile virus isn't spread through transfusions?

West Nile is different—it can spread through the blood supply. Last year in the United States, there were 23 cases of West Nile acquired through blood transfusions. In Canada, there were two cases probably acquired in this fashion out of a couple of hundred cases. The good news is that there is a test in development and I'm very confident we'll have one in place by July 1 or even sooner. So we're likely to have a test for the whole blood supply before the height of the transmission season, which last year began in mid-July in Ontario. It has really come together in an unprecedented fashion. The process of developing a test, getting it approved by the regulatory authorities and getting it implemented normally takes a couple of years. But we're likely going to be doing it in nine months.

## Are there any other precautions you can take?

After all, you can't exclude everybody who's been bitten by mosquitoes from giving blood. No, that would cut out just about everybody. But we are developing a number of contingency plans in case the test is not available in time. Over the winter, we've stockpiled enough plasma to last as over the summer months. For the other blood components, like red blood cells that have a shorter shelf life of about 42 days, stockpiling isn't work. So we're looking to ramp up collections across the country in mid-May to mid-June, just before the start of the season when we can expect human cases of



West Nile. We're doing this because West Nile could be a much more serious problem this summer and we want to be ready. Last year, human cases were mainly confined to Ontario and Quebec, but the experts predict they will occur right across the country this year.

## Overall, how common are Canadians in donating blood?

Well, we tend to give more. Now, we're behind other industrialized countries, particularly in Europe. About five per cent of eligible Europeans give blood, compared to about 3.5 per cent for Canadians. It's another legacy of the tainted blood era we have to overcome. Through the years of negative

publicity, many people stopped donating and when asked why from taking blood transfusions. But as I said, we've reversed the trend and are now on our way back.

## Do some Canadians give more than others?

There is a regional disparity. For instance, Ontarians and British Columbians tend to give less and Newfoundlanders more than the national average. In the smaller, more rural communities, people make it more a part of their daily life. They may not have the same pressures of people in big cities. So one part of it is a question of time and convenience. The other part is the ethnic mix of urban communities. We're very good at promoting blood donation to people of an

Anglo-Saxon background, but we need to do a better job of reaching out to we work with leaders in other parts of the community to get the word out, because everyone needs blood. We're trying to do a better job of that.

## So are you satisfied with the progress so far?

We need more. We consume about 800,000 units of blood a year and we have set a target of one million by 2006. We're outpacing that with our aging population, we're going to face a growing demand, and we have to prepare for that. As you can imagine, as people get older, they need their hips replaced, their knees replaced, coronary artery surgery and so on—all procedures that require blood transfusions. **B**



## HERE COMES THE JUDGE

This U.S. fashion arbiter is male, six-foot-seven, and wears fur coats and diamonds

WHEN the red carpet walk was cancelled before the Oscar ceremonies in March because America was at war and Hollywood was "confused" about how lively to make its big evening, no one could have been more apt: that André Leon Talley, American Vogue's editor-at-large.

"I was going to be doing my fashion column starting alongside Josep Stiles," he lamented. But the war on Iraq had further bombshells for him: His appearance on CNN's *Larry King Live* was postponed. He was facing every writer's nightmare: publishing a book and being upstaged by geopolitical events.

Nevertheless, Talley's first book, his autobiography *A.L.T.*, came out on April 8 to more acclaim than most seasoned authors ever see. *The New York Times* "Sunday Style" section featured it as a front-page review. The *Washington Post* led its splashy coverage "André the Giant." *New York City* department store Bergdorf Goodman devoted an entire window to showcasing Talley's life and *New York* magazine has him on its cover.

Talley, 54, a tall, black, androgynous, seven-inch American fashion arbiter. He writes the *Style* column in each issue of *Vogue*. He dresses in a way that sends Middle Americans into therapy: fur coats down to his ankles, red diamond brooches 11 inches long, on his bumpy pocket. At the both of the year, at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York last week, co-hosted by *Vogue* editor Anna Wintour, guest designer Tom Ford and Nicole Kidman in aid of the museum's Costume Institute, Talley arrived in a de-mo-black dinner suit—sleeve jewelry—compensated for with a Dior brooch in a red, in black and silver with turquoise knot, hood with double-lined red ears.

His book, however, is not a story through Parisian settings. *A.L.T.* describes Talley's life growing up in Durham, N.C. His heroes are his new mentors: His grandmother and the fashion designer, the late Diana Vreeland, both of whom died after long illnesses, watched over by André.

Talley was raised by his widowed grandmother, Bernice Frances Davis, who provided for André on a salary earned cleaning men's dormitory rooms at Duke University. Just how André went from this background to obtain an MA in French studies from Brown University, live in Paris, and become first an assistant and then great friend to the legendary Vreeland, fashion editor of *Vogue*, is fully narrated in the book but remains one of the mysteries of existence.

The writing is full of gleaming vignettes of southern black life in the fiction. Talley evokes with genuine power the "Negroes," as they were then politely called, whose women had to know everything from how to chop wood to laying out a dead body. This is a world as far from the splendor of André's offices

**ANDRÉ LEON TALLEY of *Vogue* has produced an autobiography to more acclaim than most seasoned authors ever see**

today as Conde Nast's Times Square building as white America was then from it.

The book is bathed in an innocence: Talley seems not to have entirely lost. Whether or not his upbringing was as idyllically sunny and full of love as he describes, he has still it today. His own values are now protected on these memories. His grandmother's promises have become the foundation for his own aesthetic: church, clothing and cooking. Of these facts, the Church and its Sabbath organize his life.

"My grandmother's makeup routine," he writes, "was simple and only for Sundays. She sought not to become an impression of glamour, but to finish her appearance. In much the same way she used paint was to give that last bit of color to her well-dressed furniture, her makeup routine provided the

polish to augment her natural beauty. She wore only one shade of lipstick, a deep cranberry red, and it was only, only for church. She also kept a box of face powder on the bureau, as well as a small compact on her purse in case her nose should begin to glow; she dabbed the powder on carefully, for a very natural look on Sunday mornings. The face powder and lipstick were nothing unusual, just what she could buy at the five-and-dime, but she treated them like they were special and so they were."

This choice of using quality ordinary objects is what makes Talley stand out so much sparsely from the fashion world. "Luxury is what you make it," Talley has said. "A white shirt from Kmart is made luxurious by the way you wear and maintain it." And what makes this book significant, apart from the debut of a fine writer, is that nothing is to be reduced to formula or easy answers. Talley's life is the American Dream in a splendidly simple version. Everything about the man is larger than life, but at the same time a simplicity that great taste inevitably requires.

This nice finds its way into most women's lives. Talley's strict editing eye is sought out by many of the world's leading designers. "The hot idea," says Talley, "filter down to affordable levels." He cites Barbra Streisand, K&N and DKNY.

The grandson buried his grandmother in the style he supposed she wanted. "I had managed to buy up the last stock of women's vintage Dior gloves from the 1950s to bring home to her. It was one of those pairs of costume gloves that I buried her; and, of course, I tucked a fresh pair inside the coffin, in case the pair she was wearing should become soiled. I gave her a church tie bearing a colour image of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., a small tin of her favorite snuff, and a couple of crimson handkerchiefs. I selected the lyrics No Tears in Heaven as part of her going-home services... I was glad I buried her with the appropriate accessories, because I knew how proud she would be to enter heaven with those Christian Dior gloves cradled down to just below her elbows."

"Giving home" is how André Leon Talley views his death. And he obviously tries to live his life as his grandmother left him—a thoroughbred every one must tell the certain fact.

Barbara Amel's column appears monthly in *Style* magazine.

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## THE MACLEAN'S LENS ON CANADA

An exhibition showcases extraordinary images from the magazine's archives

**THE MACLEAN'S PHOTO** archives reveal a country in the making. The magazine's visual record stretches back onto the 19th century (here in *The Shortest Magazine*, *Maclean's* celebrates its centenary in 2008), to a time when Canadian city streets were unpaved, and progress into the 1960s and the days when there was only one hotel (*Ontario's Choice* *Leader*) with an indoor swimming pool, and when our hockey idols boarded in local houses.

As photo editors at *Maclean's*, we frequently encounter such extraordinary images in the course of helping to assemble the magazine. We've selected 87 pictures, all collected between 1908 and 1975 (the year *Maclean's* made its transition to a news magazine), for an exhibition called *The Maclean's Collection: Pictures from a Golden Age*, running at Toronto's Mill Street Brewery from May 8 to June 14 as part of *Contact* ([www.contactphoto.com](http://www.contactphoto.com)), the

city's annual photography festival. Although some of the pictures were shot by luminaries such as Richard Harrington, Bruce Rankin and Bud Zazzo, the majority come from lesser-known or anonymous photographers. In all cases they are working images, remnants of day-to-day magazine production in the pre-digital era, and they represent both that process of page layout and design, and our personal, eclectic look at the magazine's visual history.



Clockwise from opposite: a bar catering to Toronto's Italian community; Newfoundland logger George Baker, 215A; a Detroit racing-house owner laments Gailor Howe's collar, circa 1952; medical exams at a Red Cross outpost. The show includes 87 pictures from 1908 to 1975.







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## UNADORNED SPLICES OF LIFE

Honesty shows its potency at Toronto's documentary festival

**DOCUMENTARY.** There's something inherently queer about the word. In the ever-expanding media arena of reality TV, webcams, porn, cultural infotainment, the Speed Channel and war coverage that comes with no soundtrack, the notion of documenting the world, rather than doing it up, seems almost arcane. In March, accepting the Oscar for best documentary feature, director Michael Moore stood on stage with a phalanx of his fellow nominees and defended the notion of non-fiction. He was using it as a conceit to attack the "fictional" presidency of George W. Bush and the war in Iraq. But the director of *Bowling for Columbine* was also taking a stand for documentary truth in the face of industrial illusion—even if some would argue that there's as much con-juring as journalism in Moore's work.

The documentary has always been the poor cousin of fiction, but it's a hardy breed. The low-budget limousine of cinema, which seldom hantary over glamour, has come to embrace a wild repertoire of genres. Digital technology has democratized the medium so that anyone with a camera and a computer can make film. And Canada, whose National Film Board helped incubate the form 64 years ago, continues to serve as a havenland for the documentary tradition.

Last week (April 25-May 4), Toronto celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Doc, North America's largest documentary festival. The program offered 122 films from 36 countries, and although SARS prohibitions prompted a third of the invited filmmakers to cancel their visits, the event boasted a record box office. It's also become North America's most active market for documentaries. This year, in the face of SARS, the festival organized a one-day Webcast that allowed broadcasters around the world to field pitches from filmmakers at the festival.

"The documentary is undergoing a renaissance," says film Doc executive director Chris McDonald. "The proliferation of documentary channels has helped, and it's materializing into a theatrical apparatus."

Canada was by far the most heavily represented country at the Doc, with 42 films in the program. And some of the festival's most powerful entries were Canadian—most notably *The Last Round*, about George Chow's soccer defeat to Malaysian Ali in 1966. *Men of the Deep*, an eloquent portrait of Cape Breton coal miners, and *Age Against the Darkness*, a harrowing tale of two aging sisters who chose to separate institutions.

The documentary has become the domain of the dispossessed. Its origins can be traced to state-sponsored propaganda: the patronage of PBS founder John Garmus to the Nazi propaganda of Leni Riefenstahl. But these days the notion of a right-wing documentary is almost a contradiction in terms. Toronto's Doc was to be confronted by images of neglected scenes, special-needs kids, outcast teens, homeless squatters, Bosnian rape victims, Afghan bombing casualties, Islamic women murdered for breaking sexual taboos, and female bikers hitting a glass ceiling on Wall Street.

But the festival also included films devoted

to harmless idiosyncrasy, such as *Pet Men*, an exhaustive study of Neil Diamond impersonators. And there were few flung courtesies into the crowd—most notably *Seed and Water*, a lyrical portrait of five farmers in Bangladesh whose lands are flooded for almost half the year, and Werner Herzog's *Whodunnit*, which documents the capture of Buddhist pilgrims in India and Tibet.

Herzog's camera takes us to a realm of pure amazement, plunging into the whirling throngs of Bodhi Gaya, an Indian town for hundreds of thousands of pilgrims. We meet a man who spent over three years traveling virtually on his hands and knees, practicing himself with every third step. We watch monks create an intricate mandala of colored sand, which looks like a printed circuit of consciousness. As Herzog interviews the Dalai Lama, or watches pilgrims fill their bowls at what must be the world's largest soap bar, he seems off camera, a wide-eyed narrator who can't hide his astonishment. He is the ultimate German tourist: Whether hauling a skip through the jungle to make



After 25 rounds with his workshop class here, Chavito emerges as the definitive stand-up guy

Peasaville (1992) as discovering Kurosaki's 1991 oil from *Lessons of Darkness*, Herzog is drawn to the corners of humanity like a moth to a flame.

His film is an example of the traditional documentary as it is best—unscripted measure made of remarkable images. But the most prevalent genre at Hot Docs was something that could be called psycho-socio-mitotic portraits of disturbed characters, with an "embedded" camera offering time-lapse portraits of their lives. *Acute Festival* just ended, the year's dominant theme was "I have my number, let's find out why."

The festival's opening film, *My Flesh and Blood*, explores a California brood of 11 special needs kids, all taken in by a single Mother Courage living on social assistance. One has no legs, another was horribly burnt in a fire. The story hangs on Joe, a 15-year-old with cystic fibrosis and bipolar disorder who threatens to kill his "freaky" siblings—and whose birth parents, both former drug addicts, have jobs delivering corpses to the morgue. It all sounds pretty bleak, but in much of this long, U.S. director Jonathan Kirsch treats a perilous line between the emotional and the crudely sentimental.

Once winning American director Lee Gribbus offered a gutting slice of life with *Girlhood*, which follows two teenagers through the juvenile justice system in Baltimore—Shane, who was gang-raped at 10 and killed a friend at 12, and Miguel, who attacked a child in her foster home with a bon cutter at 14. Gribbus, who spent three years tracking these girls, offers an astonishing glimpse into their lives with no easy redemption.

In *Rage Against the Darkness*, another time-lapse study of painful lives, veteran Toronto director John Kassar speaks a year following two aging sisters. After living together for 30 years, Danny, 67, and Emma, 72, are separated when Danny suffers a stroke. Danny begins a long effort to find his place, then long battles in a disability centre, while Emma reluctantly moves into retirement lodge. Their story is a remarkable character study. At first, even after her stroke, Danny is vivacious and outgoing, while Emma is withdrawn and broken by despair. But then the sisters' personalities cross-crisis as Emma deteriorates, Emma is oddly reinvigorated by her new independence.

Critic and filmmaker Kassar's 1988-minute documentary is so compelling that they've asked them to expand it into a five-hour mini-



Walker appears with ex-miner characters, Herzog documents Buddhist mutant dogs

series. What makes *Rage Against the Darkness* more than a vicarious glimpse into someone else's hell is how it illuminates a problem that eventually touches us all. As Danny's son and daughter-in-law leave her to find for herself, they expect increasingly sensitive, no matter how reasonable they sound. And the image of parents in wheelchairs lining up for lunch outside the dining room door—same as soon as they've finished breakfast—is downright chilling.

On a more cheerful note, the festival closed with the NFB's *The Last Round*, the story of a working-class hero from Toronto who takes on a legend. With a script by the *Globe and Mail*'s Stephen Thorne, director

Joseph Bishadi weaves archival footage and fresh interviews into an affectionate portrait of Charlie, 46—and legend—is an age of adolescence. As all full of an American and by Vietnam and the civil rights movement, Toronto offers general anger, being a heavyweight bout that no one else will touch. At last, himself surrounded by the closest white folks he's ever met. And after going 15 rounds, Charlie—who has never been knocked down in the ring—comes as the definitive stand-up guy.

Among the Canadian films, however, the most truly inspiring was *Men of the Deep*, another NFB production. Montreal-born director John Walker has composed a mas-

"While I like to celebrate good enterprise, I also go after the bad. I think that's an obligation of a business writer." — Diane Francis

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terial portrait of the men who once mined the coal in Cape Breton. Now, with the mine shut down, they keep the 300-year tradition alive with a choir called Men of the Deep. Walker intercuts the choir's stirring performances with interviews and footage of miners underground. The musical fancy, terrifying and tragic stories, like soldiers who have gone through combat and fanged beasts that make life in the shafts seem pale by comparison. One miner, new to the work, calls centre, mining complaints instead of coal. If the mine responds, he vows he'll go back underground without even bothering to clean out his desk.

Today, the vast majority of documentaries are made on video. But Walker shot *Men of the Deep* on 35-mm film. "I don't want to sound like a snob," says the 50-year-old director, who has always worked with film. "I argue against video as like arguing against acrylics. It's like an oil painter. For what I'm doing I need film. It's more human and more tactile." On the other hand, adds Walker, "when I started at the NFB, the hard thing was getting access to technology. Now's the paper and pencil, which is great—my 14-year-old daughter can make a film. But we have to focus on what we have to say."

The technology has allowed a new generation of creative directors. Take Mike Johnston, 35, from Peterborough, Ont., who "came up with an idea to make a movie about my students loan called *My Student Loan* to repay my student loan." With a shrewdly eye for an asset of Michael Moore, Johnston shows himself on the phone with collection agents, and interview staff at a parents who have student loans totalling \$49,000. The outcome? After being courted by several TV networks in Hot Docs, Johnston expects to pay off his loan by selling the film, which took four years to make.

The documentary can range from aggro to high art. One of the program's most audacious features was *Mark* by Ramin Vaziri Kouskousky, who spent a year shooting scenes from his window in St. Petersburg, Ariz., with scenes of change, drunk leavers arriving, and various waiters tear up the pavement. Kouskousky blends surreal abstraction from everyday life. As Hot Docs programmer Marc Glassman observed, it "combines the technique of a Michael Snow with the dry humour of a Buster Keaton."

But perhaps the funniest eye of the festival was *Sagacity*, from Canadian director



*Sagacity* gets dumb and dumber. Snow and Winter portray a hapless child river lumens (left)

Albert Norberg. "Bedding a subject that he says is grossly misunderstood, he quotes sources ranging from Marx to Einstein, the anti-war, 'Only two things are infinite, the universe and human stupidity, and I'm not sure about the former,'" Norberg explores the shifting scale of "idiot," "antibiotic" and "narcosis," terms that all originated in IQ test ratings. He asks how smart people, from Bill Clinton to Gordon Campbell, can behave so stupidly. And he wonders if the leader of the free world is, in fact, the lowest common denominator—"The Aton Sander, he

knows how to hide his intelligence."

But in examining the dumbing down of our culture, Norberg eagerly submits to its rhythms. *Sagacity* unfolds as a litany of tail-biting tongue-crashy stunts, stinkers, gross-out gags, monster tracks, Dubya galloping with soundbites by everyone from Rick Warren to Noam Chomsky. Less documentary than "anarchy cinema," the film is the best evidence of our on-screen—dumb-dumb down in a smart cinema. It's a culture where reality is faded, and intelligence is a delicate taboo. *Sagacity* fits right in. **B**

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# Win this ring >>



The three-stone diamond anniversary ring—for your past, your present and your future.

*Photo not for sale to the public.*

At *Canadian Business*, we've been engaging readers for 75 years. It's time we brought out the hardware.

As part of our 75th Anniversary celebrations, we're giving away a spectacular three-stone diamond anniversary ring, valued at \$5,000.

Sheer brilliance. Just complete the *Canadian Business* Diamond Challenge online and you could be a winner.

Three diamonds. Three quarters of a century. The perfect way to celebrate 75 years of *Canadian Business*.

Enter our Diamond Challenge at:  
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A DIAMOND IS FOREVER



Contest runs on April 14, 2001 at 11:00 pm EST.  
Complete rules and regulations available online.



## CLOSINGNOTES



**PEOPLE | 56**  
The resurrection  
of Gino Vannelli  
The Montreal-born  
singer-songwriter  
guests from disco  
to orchestral pop in  
a matter of decades



**BOOKS | 58**  
Tough to look at but hard to put down  
In *Mission: Martin Luther King Jr.*, Canadian Michael Mitchell has  
compiled a collection of photos by 19th  
century photographer Charles Bonaparte.  
The subjects, like Dr. King, the Russian czar  
and the circus freak show performers.



### Music | A night of two knockout performances

Toronto stayed home that night. Rocky  
Machione was in the ring with Jersey Joe  
Walcott, when he had knocked out in the  
13th round the previous year to capture the  
world heavyweight championship. The tele-  
vised fight—broadcast live from Chicago—  
was not to be repeated. That's the legendary  
explanation for why, on May 15, 1953, most  
of the seats in Toronto's Massey Hall were  
empty when Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie,  
Bud Powell, Max Roach and Charlie  
Minus stepped on stage—playing together  
for the one and only time.

Yet, despite the disappointing turnout,  
the musicians made jazz history that night.  
Critics consistently rank the recording of  
that performance among the Top 50 jazz  
albums, remarkable not only because it was  
taped through the hall's Fluorotron (but also  
because the inimitable Parker, having traded  
his regular saxophone, blew a plastic horn  
throughout the show).

To mark the concert's 50th anniversary,  
another quartet will assemble on May 15 at  
Massey Hall: *Charlie Minus* (percussion), Roy  
Hargrove (trumpet), Dave Holland (bass),  
Roy Hargrove (saxophone) and Keweenaw  
(saxophone). Hargrove says he first heard  
about the 1953 concert when he came across  
a recording in a high-school student's  
Woods, Tex. And he has no qualms about try-  
ing to recapture that night's magic. "It's just  
another gig."

Still, it's one that should not be missed.  
After all, these 1950s musicians who stepped  
the corner for the fight must have been  
doubly disappointed when the reigning  
champ delivered a knockout—in the first  
round.

SEE PAGES 56

### Listings | Song & dance

An Evening  
with Barbara Bush  
May 8  
George W. Bush may  
have cancelled his trip  
to Canada, but his  
mom is keeping her  
appointment—  
speaking on the  
importance and future  
of public education.  
www.conservative  
canada.org

Tristan and Isabella  
May 14-15  
John Milroy, artistic  
director of Ballet  
British Columbia,  
has choreographed  
the tragic love  
story of Tristan  
and Isabella for the  
National Ballet  
of Canada.  
www.nationalballet.ca  
toronto

Festival 500  
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### People | I just wanna stop—and reinvent myself

For Gino Vennelli, coming to terms with the past meant confronting a few ghosts. Throughout the late '80s and '90s, the Montreal-born singer-songwriter tried to recapture the success he'd had in the '70s as a sherry-cheeked, disco-popper with his hit *Just Wanna Stop*. But his star continued to dim. Then, adivy year ago, approaching the age of 50, Vennelli took a hard look at himself. Moving forward, he realized, meant reinvention. "That's no easy thing," he says. "All of a sudden, you see yourself in your 40s and wonder, 'Is it over?'" Slacking the cocaine and cigarette pipe music, he began working with a pop coach in his home base of Portland, Ore. "She stopped me from being one of my old fans," says Vennelli, "and

helped me to rebuild myself."

Vennelli expanded his social range and began singing in other languages. He penned *Parole Per Mio Padre*, a touching song written for his late father, with whom he'd had an acrimonious relationship. Unexpectedly, says Vennelli, movie executives from BMG Canada Inc. were interested in the song and sent him into the studio. The recording ended up being more than just a business opportunity. Vennelli asked his brothers Joe and Ross to collaborate with him for the first time in years. The result: *Genio*, an emotional pop album in Italian, French, Spanish and English. "It's a coming-of-age and acceptance for myself," he says. And a chance to lay the past to rest. **BARBARA KALIN**

### Diversions | Sheila Copps

What the heritage minister likes:

**MYSTER: RARE EGG** "It's a hilarious film about two Newfoundlanders trying to create a world-famous tourist destination."

**MARNO LEE IN PARIS** by Diane Kroll "I love the blousy Jimmy James style I saw the blues on the car commercial. She almost makes me want to buy a Subling."



### TV | In search of a wife

It takes for disturbing viewing. Take when *Reverence*, a pretty Nicotina girl in her early 20s, reads from a letter written by a prospective groom—most likely a white, middle-aged North American or European—in *Say I Do—Unveiling the stories of mail-order brides*. "There is nothing so pleasant to me that finding a young woman to submit fully to my wishes," she reads, showing little emotion. This letter typifies some of the attitudes that drew Vancouver director Arlene Klotz to this project. "I wanted to explore the root causes of the mail-order bride business," she says, "including the notion that some men go in search of a bride overseas because they view Western women as too liberal."

*Say I Do*, which airs May 9 and May 11 on CTV, tells the story of three Filipino brides now living in Canada, and follows a Dutch man travelling to the Philippines in search of a wife. *Do* is among the first to put a human face to this phenomenon, in a film where brides, grooms and their relatives talk openly about the conflicting emotions that come with such matches.



*Say I Do* looks at mail-order marriages

arrangements. Some of the stories are downright lurid: mail-order bride Irene recounts her escape from a physically abusive husband and their life in a remote B.C. Indian park with no running water, but there are also *Marjorie Blackie*, a free bride in Quebec, B.C., and her quiet summer-pick husband, Lesley, who told her when they married 10 years ago they didn't love each other. Now, they've come to deeply respect their relationship. "When I began the documentary, I saw these women as victims," says Arne. "Now I see them as strong, fierce fighters who risk everything, including their physical safety, to build better lives for themselves and their families back home." **SUSAN MCCLELLAND**

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R. (Bob) Ferguson, PEng, Continuous Improvement,  
Maritime Forces Atlantic, Department of National Defence

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### Books | What it takes to be a 19th-century celebrity

Toronto-based photographer and writer Michael Mitchell has put together a strange little book, *Monsters, Human Freaks in America's Gilded Age*—filled with portraits of 19th-century freak show characters—all both hard to look at and tough to put down. "I was captivated by the photos when I first saw them," says Mitchell of the prints by Charles Blomgren, a New York photographer who made a living shooting high-Venicean madhouse portraits of travelling freak show characters. "I wanted to know who these people were, if they were real, and why the pictures were taken."

Burns of the "monsters" in question, in-

cluding a woman with 20-inch-long feet, a man with clockwork skin and a drug boy, were major celebrities of their time and their photos were collectibles. In the book's 7th, Mitchell purchased 400 prints and in 1975 published them in book form. But he was never happy with the finished product. Now he's released them again, with the addition of some pertinent information. "I spent weeks in the Lincoln Center library reading microfilm until my eyes went crazy," he says of his research for biographical information on Blomgren's

Charles "the armless wonder" Trapp and Fanny Mills, "the Ohio big foot girl"

subjects. "This is pretty obscure stuff. Some of the photos had the characters' names on the back but most didn't." He did, however, come across some background material, even uncovering a fellow Canadian "Woodstock, Ont., native Charles 'the armless wonder' Trapp, whose claim to fame was his ability to use his feet like hands."

So where exactly does Mitchell see this odd to frank photography fitting in at the local bookstore? "Somewhere between the history of photography and the history of the circus," he says. "It's one of those curious pieces of pop culture that would get forgotten over time and I think should be documented." Even if the result is, at times, difficult to look at.

JENNIFER BRYNE

### CLOSING NOTES

#### Books | Guilt, victimhood and 20th-century war

During the Second World War, 131 German cities and towns were the targets of massive Allied bombing. Some 600,000 German civilians died in the air raids, and 7.5 million were left homeless as the ruins—by war's end, there were 47 million acres of rubble for each inhabitant of London. Yet, as the German writer WG Sebald (who died in June 2001) writes in his final book, *On the Natural History of Destruction* (Knopf), all that fell down the national memory hole: Born in Bavaria in 1944, Sebald was so haunted by the postwar silence about the suffering Germans inflicted on others—the central theme of his fiction—that he went into exile in England. And destruction, a rare non-fiction work is about the suffering inflicted on Germans, to a degree not encompassable at the West, at the top war shows. Both winners, Sebald left, arose from the same sense of guilt, and both led to and before Germany could finally face its past.



### BESTSELLERS

#### Fiction

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1. <b>THE LAST THING HE SAW</b> , Michael Chabon (D)										
2. <b>THE KILLING MACHINE</b> , Alex Scobie (M)										
3. <b>THE REMAINS OF THE DAY</b> , Hilary Mantel (D)										
4. <b>THE BIRTH OF NOVELS</b> , David Shields (D)										
5. <b>THE BIRTH OF NOVELS</b> , David Shields (D)										
6. <b>THE BIRTH OF NOVELS</b> , David Shields (D)										
7. <b>THE BIRTH OF NOVELS</b> , David Shields (D)										
8. <b>THE BIRTH OF NOVELS</b> , David Shields (D)										
9. <b>THE BIRTH OF NOVELS</b> , David Shields (D)										
10. <b>THE BIRTH OF NOVELS</b> , David Shields (D)										

#### Non-fiction

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1. <b>THE LAST THING HE SAW</b> , Michael Chabon (D)										
2. <b>THE KILLING MACHINE</b> , Alex Scobie (M)										
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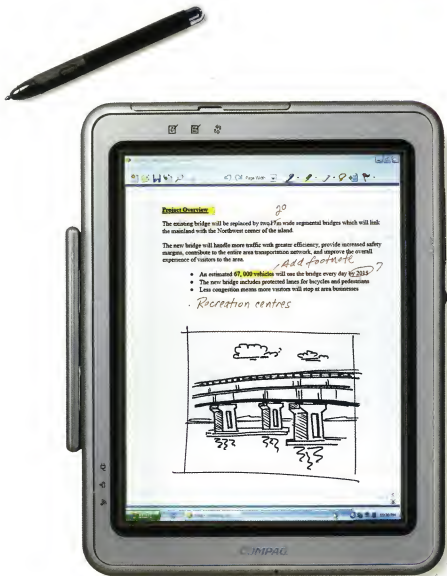


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